

U.N. suspends airlift to Namibia

INDROEK (R) — The U.N. force supervising Namibia's transition to independence said Friday it was suspending an airlift of returning refugees because of overcrowding at reception centres. A spokesman said that flights of Windhoek would be suspended until space became available at the N-supervised refugee camps for the homecoming exiles. Exiles were being longer than the expected seven days at the two camps outside Indroek because of fears about the security situation in the north, he said. Flights into the northern settlements of Oshana and Grootfontein were continuing because people were leaving the centres to return to their homes. Nearly 17,000 of an estimated 41,000 Namibians have already taken advantage of a South African amnesty to return to the vast desert country before independence elections scheduled for November. The UN is one of the major elements in Namibia's independence process (NTAG), one of the world body's biggest operations. South Africa has said to grant Namibia its independence in exchange for the withdrawal of 50,000 Cuban troops from neighbouring Angola.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية (الراي)

'Early Gorbachev-Walesa meeting unlikely'

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet spokesman said Friday he was unaware of any plans for Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev to meet Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, adding that such a meeting would take time to arrange. Walesa said Thursday he would like an immediate meeting with Gorbachev, who is in Bucharest for a Warsaw Pact summit. Yuri Gromitskiy, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, said that since Walesa made the statement, Gorbachev had been busy concluding a summit meeting in Paris, addressing the Council of Europe in Strasbourg and then flying to Bucharest. "As far as I know the question of a meeting with Walesa has not been considered. I can't even tell you whether Gorbachev has been notified of Walesa's wish. He has been constantly busy with other things," Gromitskiy told Reuters. "It does not happen that someone declares a wish to meet and the other country quickly casts aside all affairs and plans. There are agendas, especially for such a political leader as Gorbachev," Gromitskiy said. Gorbachev returns to Moscow Sunday from Bucharest. U.S. President George Bush leaves Washington Sunday for a three-day visit to Poland, his first trip to the East bloc as president.

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King and Queen begin private visit to Britain

AN (J.T.) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Alia began a private visit to the United Kingdom.

During the visit, King Hussein met with senior British officials and delivered several lectures. He also underwent a medical examination.

His Majesties are accompanied by His Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammad and Her Highness Princess Taghrid. Their departure Thursday, Hussein delivered a national address.

King said that his commitments prevented him from spending 'Eid Al Adha' with his people, but he did the Jordanian family that

he was in good health.

King Hussein said he was confident that the country's process of reconstruction and development would continue, and that he would closely follow up developments and the government's endeavours to fulfil national aspirations.

Referring to parliamentary life, King Hussein said the government had amended the Election Law and was making preparations for elections.

The King said he trusted the government to introduce administrative reforms, ensure security, prepare a national charter based on the tenets of the constitution, establish social justice, develop health, educational, agri-

cultural and other basic services and encourage personal initiatives.

The King reaffirmed the country's total commitment to the principles and goals of the Great Arab Revolt and its full backing for the Palestinian cause.

King Hussein noted that Jordan had dealt with all forms of challenges and hardships the past and would not doubt continue to do so in the future, despite the immense pressure and blackmail exercised on the kingdom.

King Hussein said campaigns casting suspicion and mistrust and directed against him personally, and members of the Royal Family and the Jordanian people at large had all ended in failure and added



HM King Hussein

that "such evil attacks can never serve the purpose of those meaning harm to the nation."

King Hussein paid tribute to the sacrifice offered by the Palestinian people under occupation and expressed pride in their heroic struggle for freedom.

He wished the Jordanian people good wishes on 'Eid Al Adha'.

Gorbachev tells allies to adapt

BUCHAREST (Agencies) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, struggling to unite his squabbling East bloc allies, urged the Warsaw Pact to adapt to a changing world as the alliance began a summit Friday.

Gorbachev, who flew to the Romanian capital late Thursday after a visit to France, briefed allies gathered in the ornate, mirrored presidential palace on changes going on in Europe and the world, Soviet spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said.

"He said there were changes in the international situation and talked about measures that must be taken to adapt," Gerasimov told reporters, without giving more details.

Diplomats said Gorbachev was expected to use the meeting to discuss a recent U.S. proposal, endorsed by North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in May, to cut conventional forces in Europe and his own offer, made in Strasbourg Thursday, of a further unilateral reduction in

Soviet short-range nuclear weapons.

The summit, which ends Saturday, is also likely to adopt an ambitious foreign policy statement laying out the seven-nation pact's vision of a world without nuclear or chemical weapons and with sharply reduced armed forces and defence spending.

In contrast to NATO summits, the press was given only scant details of the discussions in the palace opposite the Communist Party headquarters in central Bucharest, which was sealed off by police.

But reports trickling out through the wall of secrecy which surrounds pact meetings suggested Gorbachev would be unable to avoid touching on the growing rift in the alliance triggered by his own perestroika reform programme.

The alliance appears more deeply divided into progressive and hardline factions than at any time in its 34-year history. Procedural rules effectively bar

the leaders of the pact, which groups Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Bulgaria, Poland, Romania and the Soviet Union, from openly voicing views on developments in each other's country.

"It is not usual for the Warsaw Pact to discuss questions of internal politics," Andrei Grachev, a spokesman for the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, told reporters.

However, diplomats said Romania's hardline President Nicolae Ceausescu, host at the summit, might use an opportunity to discuss the situation in his own country to repeat concern about the speed of political reform in Poland and Hungary.

East European sources said Hungary's new reformist leader Reszo Nyers would in turn press for major changes in the pact's structure, including the setting-up of commissions on humanitarian and on environmental problems. The proposal was likely to be

opposed by Ceausescu, who fears such commissions could be used by the Hungarians to press Bucharest over its alleged mistreatment of Romania's ethnic Hungarian minority.

In an apparent reflection of poor Hungarian-Romanian relations, Nyers, on his first trip abroad since he took over as head of Hungary's new ruling four-man presidium, was given a cool welcome by the Romanian leader when he flew in Thursday.

Former Hungarian leader Karolyi Grosz, stayed behind in Budapest to supervise funeral preparations for his predecessor Janos Kadar who died Thursday.

Pact leaders observed a one-minute silence for Kadar, who led the country for more than three decades before being dropped from his final official post earlier this year.

In Vienna, Warsaw Pact nations Friday asked NATO to speed presentation of Bush's arms reduction initiatives at the East-West disarmament talks.

Israelis clamour for 'revenge' after 14 killed in bus incident

UPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israelis set upon by Jewish extremists and Vice-Prime Shimon Peres Friday in a plosion of anger over the killing of 14 people by a Palestinian who forced an Israeli bus to ravine.

Police fired tear gas to disperse the angry protesters, chanting "revenge" and "Death to the Arabs," who stoned Arab cars in the Bank and Gaza Strip.

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"The word for today is revenge, no less than revenge. No Arab should reach this area, don't let them come here," Kahane told followers outside the funeral parlour.

Minutes later, they tried to lynch the Arab driver of a construction truck and stoned his cabin. Police fired tear gas to disperse them.

Elsewhere, Arab cars and workers were stoned in the towns of Kiryat Gat, Kiryat Malachi and Beit Shemesh, police said.

Many Arabs stayed indoors, fearing revenge attacks.

The 28-year-old Palestinian from the Nuseirat refugee camp in the occupied Gaza Strip, who grabbed the steering wheel of an express bus on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway and sent it plunging down a cliff, was being interrogated in a hospital under heavy guard.

Police disclosed that two of the dead, initially said to be all Israelis, were visitors from Canada.

At least 25 of the 27 injured remained hospitalised Friday, five in serious condition, Israeli radio said.

Seven carry American passports, according to the U.S. officials.

Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev said he expected the cabinet to discuss the death penalty for the bus attack.

It was the most serious attack of the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising and the most deadly inside Israel since commandos hijacked a bus on the coastal highway in 1978 and 33 passengers died in a shootout without troops.

Meanwhile the Arab death toll also continued to mount.

Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian youth in the West Bank. Two Palestinians shot in earlier clashes with troops died of their wounds.

Their deaths brought to 537 the number of Palestinians to die in the revolt.

Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories, including Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij and Gaza lawyer Zuhair Rayyes, condemned the bus attack outright, saying it could only harm the Palestinian cause and peace prospects.

A top aide to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat said the attack on the bus was a human reaction and warned that desperate conditions for Palestinians could breed further uncontrollable acts.

Bassam Abu Sharif said the bus attack was "a human reaction by someone who has had his children killed, seen families deported, houses demolished. And this, of course, is due to (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir's policy."

If Shamir "keeps stepping up violence, there can be a point where control will become really difficult," Abu Sharif said in a telephone interview with the AP.

He said the uprising would be "escalated because this is the only answer to intransigence."

Abdul Rahman said the Palestinian leadership would meet within the next few days to consider their position in the light of Shamir's speech.

"We will be contacting the American side to hear what they are going to do," Abdul Rahman said.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a chief architect of the election plan, said Thursday the Labour Party would consider withdrawing from the government over the stances adopted by the Likud.

Meanwhile, U.S. Ambassador William Brown said in a meeting with Shamir Thursday that Washington sees Israel's initiative as "firm and abiding," a Shamir spokesman said.

Three other left-wing parties filed no-confidence motions against the government in parliament, claiming Likud's decision of Wednesday had mired chances of starting peace talks.

In Cairo, U.S. civil rights leader Jesse Jackson said Thursday that America should stamp on the Israeli election proposals.

Peking protests to Paris

PEKING (R) — China Friday formally protested over France's decision to admit two fugitive democracy activists and allow them to make political statements.

The New China News Agency (NCNA) said a Foreign Ministry official lodged a strong protest with French Ambassador Charles Malo over the admission to France of student activist Wuor Kaidi and dissident intellectual Yan Jiaqi.

The protest called them "two criminals... wanted for inciting and organising the counter-revolutionary rebellion."

France was among the foreign countries to express the strongest condemnation of China's decision to use troops and tanks to crush unarmed demonstrators in Peking on June 4.

Hundreds of civilians including students are known to have died. The government says force was necessary to crush a "counter-revolutionary rebellion."

NCNA said the Foreign Ministry official protested that the French state television channel Antenne-2, the Agence France-Press news agency and some Parisian newspapers carried speeches by Wuor Kaidi and Yan Jiaqi.

The official said the pair "attacked the Chinese government for putting down the counter-revolutionary rebellion in Peking, vilified China's social system, hurled abuse at Chinese leaders and threatened to overthrow the present government in China and 'rebuild the republic'."

The Chinese protest added that although France was aware of the two men faced arrest for their activities, "the French side still agreed to the two criminals' entry into France and has allowed them to conduct openly on French soil activities aimed at overthrowing the government of the People's Republic of China."

"Such acts by the French side constitute a flagrant violation of international law and norms governing state-to-state relations."

Missile row complicates Arab peace efforts in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Muslim leaders said Friday they would ask Syria for surface-to-surface missiles and tanks to "defend ourselves" and counter new missiles and armour reportedly acquired by their foes from Iraq.

As artillery shelled the coast of the rightist enclave north of Beirut Friday, Shi'ite Muslim Amal leader Nabih Berri declared in Damascus that the rightists received a shipment of Soviet-designed Frog-7 missiles and T-54 and T-55 tanks Thursday.

Police said two people were killed and seven wounded Friday. That raised the casualty toll since the battles broke out March 8 to 404 people killed and 1,558 wounded.

Most of the shellfire fell around the port of Jbeil, north of Beirut.

Pounding of the coastline, aimed at stopping supplies reaching the besieged forces of

army commander Gen. Michel Aoun, has become a daily ritual despite Arab League ceasefires.

The move by Syria's Muslim allies threatened a dramatic escalation in the four-month-old war between the rightists, and Syrian-backed Lebanese militiamen as an Arab League envoy tried again to halt the civil war bloodletting.

Tension also heightened amid reports that 42 people were kidnapped in western sectors after Syrian-backed forces lifted a land blockade of the besieged rightist heartland two days ago.

Berri said after meeting with socialist leader Walid Junblatt, who heads the Progressive Socialist Party militia, that the new weapons he said the Aoun forces had received were to be deployed against the Muslim forces.

"They're not to threaten Syria for any other country," he said. "They're to be used against the

Lebanese and the parties of the national coalition," an alliance of six Muslim parties.

"The Syrians must help us. We are their allies. If they cannot, or will not, then it is our right to seek to purchase such advanced weapons from any source," Berri stressed.

He said no official request has yet been made to the Syrians, but that he was waiting for President Hafez Al Assad to return from his summer residence in the coastal city of Latakia "in order to put this request to him."

"Without making any threats or warnings, I tell the Syrians: 'You've got to help us.'"

Berri said he had told Syrian officials that the rightists' missile were "aimed at my house, the house of Walid Junblatt and at the Syrian headquarters" in west Beirut.

"Their answer was: 'No. This is untrue. We know better.'"

Junta seen to have consolidated power with arrest of Mahdi

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudan's new military rulers have tightened their grip on power by arresting former Prime Minister Sadeq Mahdi, who had been in hiding since his civilian government was toppled a week ago.

Mahdi was caught Thursday by a joint force of soldiers and police as he tried to scramble over the veranda of a friend's house in a fashionable Khartoum district, where most foreign diplomats and expatriates live.

An army statement said Mahdi was carrying a note addressed to the 15-man junta that ousted him. It gave no details.

Diplomats said Mahdi's arrest removed the final source of threat to the military's rule. Even though several of Mahdi's top aides remain at large, the diplomats doubted whether any resistance to Sudan's new rulers could be organised without him.

A revolutionary council led by coup leader Osman Hassan Ahmad Bashir earlier arrested 45 politicians from Mahdi's coalition government on charges of corrup-

tion.

Bashir, 43, has said his priority for reform is fighting corruption as a first step to improving the economy and national security.

Mahdi's government was buffeted by street demonstrations against high prices and severe shortages of basic goods.

The new military leader accused ousted officials of destroying the economy and hesitating too long to organise peace talks to end a ruinous war in the south that was costing the government \$1 million a day while it ran up a foreign debt of \$13 billion.

On Monday, Bashir was quoted as inviting rebel leader John Garang to Khartoum for talks to end the rebellion.

The new leadership earlier cancelled peace talks arranged by Mahdi's government for Monday in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

For months, the military has been restive about Mahdi's reluctance to negotiate with the rebels.

Bashir, an obscure army brigadier until he led last Friday's

coup, said Mahdi and at least 50 other politicians who have been detained so far would be questioned. If charged, they will be tried before emergency tribunals.

The Oxford-educated Mahdi, great-grandson of a messianic leader who fought the British in the 19th century, was once a guerrilla leader who led an invasion from Libya in 1976 in an unsuccessful attempt to topple President Jaafar Numeiri.

Numeiri was overthrown in a military coup in 1985, and Mahdi became prime minister in the elections that followed a year later.

The military men who overthrew Mahdi have pledged to end the civil war. On Tuesday they declared a one-month unilateral ceasefire and offered an amnesty to the rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

However, reports that a junta delegation had set out for Ethiopia to seek contacts with the SPLA were denied Thursday by the official Sudan News Agency.

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A British spokesman said Thatcher agreed to commit an unspecified amount of new aid to Pakistan.

The two leaders also discussed Pakistan's development of nuclear technology, which has raised fears in the West that it may be building a nuclear bomb.

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A British spokesman said Thatcher also congratulated Bhutto on Pakistan's return to democracy and her plans to steer the country back into the Com-

China to attend Cambodia conference

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN (AP) — China has confirmed it will send its foreign minister to the international conference on Cambodia July 30-31 in Paris.

France's Deputy Foreign Minister Edwige Avice said Friday.

China's role is considered crucial because it is the principal source of arms for a three-party guerrilla coalition fighting Vietnamese troops that entered Cambodia in late 1978.

Peking has adopted a more conciliatory stance on the issue in recent years, but its Cambodian diplomacy has been uncertain since its domestic turmoil and the bloody crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in Peking by hard-liners.

"This presence is one of the conditions of the success of the conference," Avice said. She told reporters she received the news of China's participation from Paris Friday night.

The conference will focus on the international monitoring of Vietnam's planned withdrawal from Cambodia by Sept. 30, the general election and Cambodia's future, she said.

But Avice refused to take questions. She was in Brunei heading the delegation from the European Community at talks with foreign ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and their western allies.

Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Philippine Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus and Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsitla all welcomed the move in conversations with the Associated Press.

Earlier Friday, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said the world community must remain committed to ensure Cambodia remains independent, stable and free of Khmer Rouge control after Vietnam's withdrawal.

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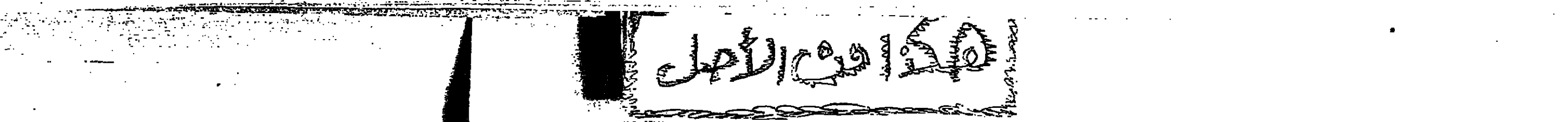
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Kabul reports major push against rebels

KABUL (Agencies) — Afghan troops backed by artillery fire and air cover have advanced towards rebel bases on the border with Pakistan, the government said Thursday, in the second day of its offensive.

"This is our biggest offensive against the opponents since the Soviet troop withdrawal," declared Sarwar Yourish, president Najibullah's spokesman. "Our aim is to push back the rebels towards the Pakistan border."

The government said at least 287 rebels had been killed and 238 injured in the offensive. It said its troops seized six tanks, five armoured personnel carriers, 4,287 rockets, 7,700 magazines of Kalashnikov rifles and ammunition.

The government reported four of its soldiers killed.

Rebels based in Pakistan confirmed the two-day escalation of fighting. The rebel-controlled Afghan information and documentation centre said government troops regained control of a handful of positions near the eastern city of Jalalabad.

Elsewhere, an Afghan pilot landed his Soviet-made fighter jet in the Pakistani border city of Peshawar and sought asylum Thursday, the rebel-controlled Afghan News Agency (ANA) reported.

A Pakistan air force official, speaking on condition of anonymity,

said two U.S.-made F-16s accompanied the Soviet Sukhoi SU-22 attack jet from the Afghan border to Peshawar.

The ANA dispatch said the pilot of the SU-22, identified as Jan Mohammad, was reportedly headed for Jalalabad when he diverted.

Government reports said the Afghan air force bombed rebel positions in and around Jalalabad for the second day Thursday.

As many as 30 Afghan air force bombers left Kabul airport and nearby Baghram air base early Thursday, headed in an eastern direction.

But later Thursday, the government reported no more fighting in Jalalabad, where a protracted rebel siege began in March soon after the Soviet military ended its nine-year intervention.

"The city is under our control and there is no problem there except rocket attack by the opponents," Yourish said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said government troops were clearing rebel bases around Jalalabad and advancing toward Torkham, 10 kilometres from the border.

Torkham is a rebel stronghold from which the Mujahideen have launched attacks on Jalalabad in their bid to capture a major Afghan city. Located at the foot of the Khyber Pass, Torkham is also the transit point for most of

the supplies headed for eastern Nangarhar province.

Jalalabad is the capital of Nangarhar province, about 125 kilometres east of Kabul and 72 kilometres from the Pakistani border.

Samarkhel, 20 kilometres from Jalalabad, was the only significant target taken by the Western-backed Mujahideen rebels since the completion of the Soviet pullout.

"It's bad news for the Mujahideen, though they had half been expecting it," one Western Afghan-watcher commented.

A diplomatic source said there had been a major "hiccup" in the supply of Western arms to the rebels which had seriously harmed their ability to keep up pressure on Jalalabad.

"In this case I think they have a legitimate grievance," the source said.

The rebel sources said the aerial bombardment accompanying the assault on Samarkhel was one of the heaviest in the 10-year-old civil war. ANA said the government fired many intermediate-range Scud missiles causing heavy casualties.

The capture of Samarkhel at the start of the Mujahideen assault on Jalalabad March 6 gave a huge boost to guerrilla morale.

But their offensive on Afghanistan's third biggest city was halted by minefields, heavy



Afghan government soldiers at a military checkpoint north of Kabul.

bombing and dogged defence by government troops.

Western and rebel analysts said recapture of the base was certain to boost the morale of Najibullah's government.

It would also heighten the already intense rivalries among the rebels, whose government is recognised by only four countries and is disowned by many guerrillas and refugees.

Kabul has called repeatedly for peace talks while the main rebel parties insist Najibullah's administration must go first.

Rebel sources said the troops in Jalalabad apparently feinted towards the southwest Wednesday

before thrusting for Samarkhel the next day, outflanking rebels closer to the city.

There was no obvious defensive point along the main highway from Samarkhel to the Pakistani border crossing at Torkham, they said.

ANA, while describing the Mujahideen losses as "transient," said guerrilla commanders felt the situation could become very embarrassing if they were not given fresh arms supplies soon.

"If our needs are not fulfilled, in time it will be very disastrous for the Afghan nation," it said. Fighters of Hezb-e-Islami

(Khalis), one of the seven main rebel parties based in Pakistan, launched a diversionary attack on the Jalalabad-Kabul highway. This is the main route for reinforcements and supplies for the Jalalabad garrison.

A party spokesman said they had taken control of a long stretch of the road and captured a convoy including 25 lorries carrying missiles. Independent confirmation was not available.

The rebels' failure to prevent reinforcements reaching Jalalabad has been a major factor in their inability to wear down the defenders, according to the Western analysts.

OIC chief calls on Sofia to respect rights

ISTANBUL (Agencies) — Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Secretary-General Hamid Al Gabid called on Bulgaria to respect human rights at the start of a visit to Turkey. Gabid arrived Thursday evening to visit the Turco-Bulgarian frontier over which 117,000 ethnic Turks have fled to escape what they describe as a forced assimilation campaign in Bulgaria.

"We earlier condemned these events. We are condemning them again," he told the semi-official Anatolian news agency.

"We remind them (the Bulgarians) to conform to pacts and respect the rights of minorities. We will take all necessary measures after seeing the event and the situation," Gabid said.

Bulgaria denies the existence of an ethnic Turkish minority of around 1.5 million people, saying their ancestors were forced to take Islamic names under Ottoman-Turkish rule.

Turkey, seeking widespread international condemnation of Bulgaria, is placing considerable emphasis on Gabid's visit.

"We are still counting on the support of international public opinion but our preoccupation may be with the U.N. Security Council and the Islamic conference," Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu said.

Gabid will meet Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz and see refugee tent cities near the border during a three-day visit.

Turkey, which expects a total of about 300,000 ethnic Turkish refugees, wants to negotiate a comprehensive emigration agreement with Sofia to safeguard the rights of ethnic Turks.

Meanwhile, Turkish trade unions have accused the government of laying off Turkish workers to make way for ethnic Turks.

"We are carrying out research into recent lay-offs. It is something to be condemned," Vahap Guvenc, a senior official of the main Turk-Is union confederation, told Reuters Friday.

Union accusations are the first sign of disharmony in Turkey over the 117,000 ethnic Turks who have crossed from Bulgaria since mid-May. The government

has welcomed them as "kinstmen." The refugees, including agricultural and factory workers, arrive in Turkey at a time of 20 per cent annual inflation and 15 per cent unemployment among the 18-million-strong workforce.

Sekir Yilmaz, head of Turk-Is which groups two-thirds of Turkey's three million unemployed workers, said this week that 38 Turks had been dismissed at a textile factory in the western city of Bursa to make way for ethnic Turks.

"In response to announcements by some firms that they are giving jobs to refugees, any dismissal of workers already employed," he told reporters.

Yilmaz said nearly 1,600 state workers had been dismissed since January, before the exodus from Bulgaria started.

Prime Minister Turgut Ozal responded to Yilmaz by saying: "This is idle talk. Turkey has no employment capacity at the moment. If we place 10,000 people (refugees) in new jobs, who can be bothered by this?"

Yilmaz Senturk, head of the Istanbul branch of the Turk-Is agricultural workers union, said Thursday that 35 of his men had been dismissed to make way for 17 ethnic Turks.

"State officials are saying the Bulgarian attitude is against all human rights and is a crime against humanity. How can they talk about human rights when the democratic rights of our workers are usurped," he told the Anatolian news agency.

Many people in the main western border city of Edirne, where several thousand ethnic Turks are living in tent cities, welcomed the presence of the refugees.

"Last year Turkey accepted more than 50,000 Iraqi Kurdish refugees, so there is no reason why we should not accept our own kinstmen," 20-year-old student Ali Dincol told Reuters.

But restaurant waiter Mesut Siltan, 45, said: "I do not want them to come here. They are no use to us. We've had enough with unemployment. They will cause more unemployment."

Islam's faithful gather in Mecca for pilgrimage

By Ally Mahmoud
The Associated Press

BAHRAIN — An estimated 1.8 million Muslims from 80 countries, including China and the Soviet Union, have gathered in Mecca and Medina for the annual pilgrimage, Haj, to Islam's holiest shrines.

But Iranians, angered by Saudi Arabia's cutback on pilgrims this year, have stayed away from the religious gathering in protest.

Thousands of soldiers and policemen are on patrol. Security has been tight since 1979, when religious extremists seized the Grand Mosque in Mecca and held it for two weeks before Saudi forces stormed it. More than 250 people were killed, including 100 of the extremists. Another 63 people were later beheaded.

The Saudis arrested scores of Iranian Revolutionary Guards posing as pilgrims in 1986 when they tried to smuggle in weapons and explosives.

The following year, 402 pilgrims, mostly Iranians, were killed in riots that the Saudis

said were instigated in Mecca by fundamentalists.

Iran's official media have intensified their daily condemnation of the Saudi royal family, stoking Iranian religious passions against the kingdom during the Islamic rituals.

Saudi Arabia made it clear that if the Iranians wanted to cause trouble they were not welcome.

"If the rulers of Iran are still bent on offending the hajis, we reject and will resist this," Interior Minister Prince Nayef said in a statement distributed Wednesday by the official Saudi Press agency. "We will not allow anyone to undermine the safety of the hajis or the (Saudi) homeland."

He said that an unspecified number of Iranians living outside Iran are making the pilgrimage to the holy sites.

"We never intended to bar the Iranians from the Haj," he said. "We have told Tehran that Iranian hajis are welcome to come to the kingdom, but in a specific number as is the case with hajis from other Islamic countries."

During the haj, princes rub

shoulders with paupers from Bangladesh. Uzbeks from the Soviet Union mingle with Turks, Nigerians and Indonesians and hajis from Poland, Hungary, Sicily, Spain and Zanzibar.

"We've been told that no Iranians are coming and that's a relief," a Pakistani pilgrim, Abdul Khair Bakhsh, said in an interview.

The Saudis last year imposed a quota on the number of pilgrims, 1,000 for every one million population in Muslim countries. That cut Iran's usual 150,000 pilgrims by about two-thirds.

The Iranians rejected that restriction and apparently have boycotted the pilgrimage in protest.

Ostensibly, the reason for the Saudi action was to prevent overcrowding while they expanded facilities and accommodations in Mecca, birthplace of the Prophet Mohammad, and Medina, where he is buried.

But the move was widely believed to have been aimed at restricting Iranian pilgrims.

By the time the Haj climaxes

July 12, Saudi officials estimate that more than two million Muslims will have made the pilgrimage, about half of them Saudis.

Officials said there were 31 pilgrims from the Soviet Union among the multitude of worshippers, compared with 15 last year, a nominal increase which reflects the easing of religious restrictions under Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

China has been more liberal, allowing 2,000 men and women to make the Haj this year, twice the size of last year's group.

"More people will be coming in the future, thanks to glasnost," Gorbachev's policy of openness, said Mufti Talgat Tadzhuiddin, a Soviet pilgrim.

In Mecca, birthplace of Islam, the men discard robes and business suits to don two pieces of white, seamless cloth the size of bath towels to signify equality in the eyes of God. They are not allowed to wear jewelry or ornaments.

Women wear head-to-toe cloth garments and are not allowed to use perfume.

All pilgrims, who are expected to make the pilgrimage

at least once if they can afford it, abstain from cutting their hair, enjoying the pleasures of the flesh and even killing mosquitoes and flies until the haj is over.

The pilgrimage is not just a religious congress, which the Saudis televise and beam by satellite to Muslim countries, but an international market as well.

Officials said more than 600,000 Saudis congregate in Mecca and Medina to cash in on the season's business, ranging from food and transportation to selling prayer rugs and souvenirs.

The logistics, transportation and accommodation cost the Saudi government billions of dollars. It is spending billions more on modernising the holy shrines, building high-rise apartment blocks, hotels and gouging out huge underground parking lots in the rocky hills ringing Mecca.

In Mecca, Hajis go first to the "house of God" for prayers before walking seven times round the Kaaba, a square building draped in black, gold-embroidered curtains.

The ritual predates Islam to the days when Mecca was a pagan centre and the Kaaba a home of stone idols. The Prophet Mohammad took it over and destroyed the idols in the 6th century.

After Mecca, the pilgrims move in a huge procession — in buses, cars and on foot — to the bowl-shaped valley of Mina seven kilometres northeast of Mecca.

The haj climaxes a day later, when they move 11 kilometres further east to the plain of Arafat, where the Prophet Mohammad gave his farewell sermon before he died in 632 A.D.

They live in a city of tents, praying and attending sermons. On the 10th day of the lunar month of Zul Hijjah (July 13), the Haj is return to Mina to "stone the devil."

They huddle in a gorge where each hurls seven pebbles at a stone pillar, the symbol of Satan.

Then they slaughter millions of sheep, to commemorate the Prophet Abraham's readiness to sacrifice his son Ismail to God.

Lebanese student held in West Germany

BONN, West Germany (AP) — Authorities arrested a "fanatic Shiite" student from Lebanon after raiding his Darmstadt apartment and finding evidence he was plotting bomb attacks against American and Israeli targets in West Germany, according to officials.

The 21-year-old student was allegedly hired by extremists living in Lebanon and may have accomplices still loose in West Germany, authorities said.

Investigators intercepted a letter from the suspect indicating unidentified U.S. military installations and bars popular with American servicemen were potential targets for attack, said Erwin Hoel, an investigator with the Bavarian criminal office in Munich.

"It isn't clear exactly what the possible American targets might have been," Hoel said in a telephone interview with the Associ-

ated Press.

Hoel said the letter was addressed to Beirut, but he would not say who was supposed to receive it or give other details.

Investigators also found evidence that bombing attacks had been planned in Munich against the offices of Israel's El Al Airlines, the Israeli trade centre and the city's Jewish community centre, he said.

Hoel would provide only the suspect's first name and the first initial of his last name: Bassam M. He also said the suspect had been a physics student at Darmstadt's technical university.

"He is a fanatic Shiite Muslim," Hoel said.

The Munich-based Süddeutsche Zeitung newspaper said the 21-year-old suspect had been living in Darmstadt since 1985. Darmstadt is about 35 kilometres south of Frankfurt. There are many American military facilities

in both Frankfurt and Darmstadt.

No explosives were found in a June 22 raid of the student's Darmstadt apartment, he said.

But Hoel said investigators did discover Arab-language notes giving "clear indications of imminent attacks" using explosives.

Hoel said the suspect was allegedly hired by "contacts in the Middle East" and kept up communications with them by tele and through the mail.

He said the Lebanese student "himself was clearly prepared not only to plan the attacks, but to carry them out himself."

Heinz Stocker, Bavaria state's chief prosecutor, was asked whether the suspect might have accomplices in West Germany who could also be tied to the alleged bombing plots.

"That's something we cannot exclude," Stocker told the AP. Hoel said investigators uncovered the alleged plot "just in

time," before any attacks could be carried out.

In addition to the letter, Hoel said, investigators intercepted several photos — showing the potential Israeli targets in Munich — that were supposed to be sent to Beirut.

The suspect has admitted sending the photographs but has refused to say anything about possible bombing attacks or about his alleged accomplices, Hoel said.

The suspect told investigators he had been coerced into his actions by his accomplices, under the threat of death for himself and for his relatives in Lebanon, Hoel said.

But Hoel said he believed such assertions were "pure cover-ups."

He also said authorities have little hope of catching those who allegedly hired the Lebanese student to plan bombing attacks in West Germany.

Egypt removed from Arab boycott list

DAMASCUS (R) — Arab officials organising an economic boycott of Israel removed Egypt and 21 companies from their blacklist Thursday, officials said.

They said Egypt's membership in the Arab League body was automatically restored after Cairo was readmitted to the league in May.

Among the companies removed from the list were the giant U.S. General Motors Corp, Jeep Corp, British Jeyes Ltd and French cosmetic maker L'Oréal SA, the officials said.

A partial boycott on Japan's Sony Corp and its affiliated companies was also ended while cases of some companies threatened with blacklisting were settled.

These included the U.S. Chrysler Corp, U.S. General Electric Co and the British G.K.N. Plc

international contracting company, they said.

"The meeting also cancelled a boycott of some Romanian goods after Romanian authorities presented documents confirming the government had stopped importing these goods from Israel, the officials said.

But they said the meeting added 15 international companies to their blacklist, including the Cypriot Iron and Gate, the U.S. Keystone Camera Products Corp, the French La Compagnie Financiere Holding, Delta Textile France and Belgian American Overseas Shipping.

"The meeting decided to cancel the extraordinary rules related to Egypt on the occasion of the restoration of Egypt's full membership in the Arab League," an official said.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77311-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	News in French
15:40	Programme review
15:45	Children programme
17:00	Side Kicks
17:30	Educational programme
18:00	News summary
18:05	Message from Iraq
18:25	A play by Shakespeare
19:10	Local programme
19:40	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:30	Programme review
21:40	Consumer's Guide
22:25	Local programme
23:00	News in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:15	Couisses
19:15	News in French
19:30	Arabic series
19:45	Arabic series
20:00	Arabic series
20:30	Arabic series
21:10	Saturday Variety Show
22:00	News in English
22:30	Feature film: "The Red Circle"
CHURCHES	
16:21	St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifish, Tel. 810740
16:30	Assembly of God Church, Tel. 637825
16:35	St. Joseph Church Tel. 624990
16:40	Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
16:45	De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
16:50	Terrace Church Tel. 623668
16:55	Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
17:00	Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 771331
17:05	Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
17:10	Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771331
17:15	St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
17:20	Armenian International Church Tel. 663726
17:25	Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
17:30	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba,	
Fair (Sunny) Dhufs	
Dhufur	

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR	
winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.	
Amman	18 / 30
Aqaba	25 / 38
Deserts	18 / 32
Jordan Valley	22 / 37
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 38 per cent, Aqaba 35 per cent.	
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Adnan Zaghloul	741391
Dr. Mohammad Al Awaad	625778
Dr. Fakhri Al Balushi	826650
Dr. Hani Haddad	777751
First pharmacy	661912
Farmacia pharmacy	775336
Al Asma pharmacy	637055
Nairoukh pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	649445
Shmeis pharmacy	637660
URBID:	
Dr. Amjad 'Obeidat	(—)
Al Shams pharmacy	(985238)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Youssef 'Awad	994676
Khalifeh pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192, 821111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	895205
Public Security Department	60822
Hotel Complaints	666277
Police Complaints	666176
Water and Sewerage	666176
Complaints	897467
Amman Municipality	787111
Telephone Information	787111
(directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	010234
Central Amman Telephone	623177
Repairs	661101
Abdali Telephone Repairs	661101
Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	680100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power	636381
Company	663380
RJ Flight Information	66-53200
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport	66-53200
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/352
Khalidi Maternity, J. Ann.	644281/6
Akshid Maternity, J. Ann.	642441/2
Jalal Amman Maternity	642442
Malhan, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeis	664171/4
Shmeis Hospital	669131
University Hospital	843545
Al-Musallat Hospital	667277/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/77
Al-Abdi, Abdali	

Anniversary of King Talal's death marked

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Friday, July 7, marked the 17th anniversary of the death of the late King Talal Ibn Abdullah, father of His Majesty King Hussein and the eldest son of the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, Founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Upon assuming his constitutional powers on Sept. 6, 1951, King Talal embarked on reforms in the national constitution with the purpose of developing political life.

Falling ill, King Talal found that he couldn't go on discharging the Kingdom's affairs, so he handed the standard of His

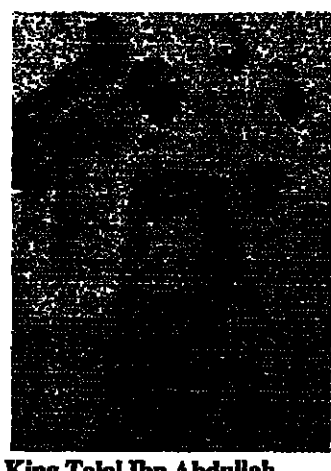
Majesty King Hussein on Aug. 11, 1952.

King Talal was born in Mecca in 1909, and received military training at Sandhurst Military College in Britain. He was the first Jordanian army officer to graduate from the college in 1939.

King Talal took part in the Arab-Israeli war of 1948 and fought alongside the Jordanian Armed Forces in defence of Arab land and Palestine.

On the occasion, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Friday visited the tomb of his late father and laid a wreath.

Also laying wreaths on the tomb were a number of the royal family members, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, cabinet members, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament and members, Royal Court Chief Thounan Al Hindawi, senior Royal Court officials, the Greater Amman Mayor and Greater Amman Municipal Council members, Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb and his assistants, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Muhammad Muheilan, senior Armed Forces, Public Security Department and general intelligence officers.



King Talal Ibn Abdullah

Premier, church delegation discuss Mideast

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Thursday received Archbishop of Los Angeles Cardinal Roger Mahony and the accompanying delegation and reviewed with them the latest developments in the Middle East and the best means for establishing a just and durable peace in the region.

They also reviewed the situation in Lebanon and the efforts made by the tripartite Arab committee to ensure an end to the Lebanese crisis.

Cardinal Mahony's visit to Jordan is part of a tour which will take them to Syria, the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Qasem receives delegation

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem also received the Catholic Church delegation and reviewed with them the latest developments in the region, with main focus on the Palestine question. Qasem briefed the delegation



Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Thursday receives the Archbishop of Los Angeles and his accompanying delegation at the prime ministry.

on the efforts made by the Arab countries to find a peaceful settlement to the Middle East conflict.

He pointed out the positive stands adopted by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in its quest to find a just, comprehensive and durable peace in the region.

Qasem noted that the PLO stands have received a large-scale international support, and have contributed to revitalising the efforts to find a solution to the Palestine question.

Qasem voiced Jordan's appreciation for the support and attention the Catholic Church has

shown for the sufferings of the Palestinian people under the Israeli occupation, and expressed hope that the communique to be issued by the Catholic Archbishops' National Conference, which will be held October, will support the legitimate Palestinian rights.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

KING RECEIVES QATARI GUESTS: His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received at the Royal Court Sheikh Faisal Ibn Qasem Al Thani, Sheikh Ali Ibn Ahmad Al Thani, Sheikh Ahmad Ibn Qasem Al Thani, Col. Sheikh Mohammd Ibn Oweida Al Thani and the Jordanian expatriate Samir Deeb from Qatar, who are all on a visit to Jordan at the invitation of Tourism Minister Yanal Hikmat. The guests voiced appreciation to King Hussein for his pan-Arab stands and his keen interest in building the inter-Arab force. (Petra)

ROYAL DECREE: A Royal Decree has been issued authorising Minister of Higher Education Dr. Nassereddin Assad to be Acting Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs during the absence of Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Abdul Aziz Khayyat who is leading the Jordanian pilgrims' mission. (Petra)

PSD CHIEF VISITS BADIA POLICE: Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Abdul Hadi Majali Thursday visited Southern Badia Police Stations in Rum and Disi where he met PSD officers who briefed him on the services given to tourists and visitors. Majali also met with PSD members working in Aqaba and urged them to help expatriates, visitors, and citizens surmount problems they might encounter and preserve the bright image of Jordan. This visit falls within the framework of Majali's current tour of the various governorates to enquire about the security situation and the PSD duties. (Petra)

UNESCO REPRESENTATIVE LEAVES: United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Regional Representative Farouq Farra Thursday left Amman at the conclusion of a four-day visit to Jordan during which he conferred with a number of officials at the Ministry of Education, the Jordanian universities and institutes, as well as the UNESCO representatives in Jordan. He was also briefed on the educational development in Jordan. (Petra)

SAFeway CELEBRATES: Celebrated its first year anniversary Friday, July 7th. It invited all its dear customers to join in the family fun. Customers enjoyed birthday cake, pony rides, fruit drinks compliments of juicy, and delicious hot dogs courtesy of pinar meats and Al Rabia bakery. The celebration was Safeway International's way of saying thank you to their customers for making them a success.

Ministry has enough supply of meat, subsidised foodstuff

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub Friday said that the ministry has enough supplies of wheat, flour, rice, sugar, milk, frozen chicken and fresh and frozen meat and called on all citizens not to buy and stock large quantities of these foodstuffs, which might be spoiled or decayed if stored in unsuitable conditions.

Ayyoub added that quantities of such stuff available at the ministry's storehouses or those being shipped in accordance with contracts are sufficient to meet the country's needs for a period

ranging between 9 months and one year.

The minister called on citizens not to worry about such foodstuff and stressed the ministry's interest in providing them in sufficient quantities and at reasonable prices.

He added that meat, in particular is available in sufficient quantities and that there are many alternatives which the citizens can select from, such as fresh local meat, imported fresh and frozen meat, chicken and fish as well as local chicken.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Songs of the Earth" by Mohammad Nasrallah at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photography exhibition entitled "Constructed Narratives" at the British Council.

POETRY RECITAL

- ★ Poetry recital by Arab poet Mohammad 'Armouh at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

International youth camp opens at Allan

SALT (Petra) — A week-long international youth camp, organised by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the National Red Crescent Society, opened Thursday at Allan Secondary School for Girls.

Addressing participants, Education Minister Abdullah Al Nsour said Youth is "the hope of the nation and the symbol of strength and liveliness."

He added that Jordan, under directives from His Majesty King Hussein, directs special attention to the youth because they are the pioneer builders of the country.

Also addressing the participants was Ahmad Abu Qoura, president of Jordanian Red Crescent Society, who stressed the importance of humanitarian work hard to achieve the objectives of the Red Crescent Movement.

Taking part in the camp are 70 youths from the Arab Cooperation Council member states — Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen — in addition to Palestine, Syria, Libya, Qatar, Turkey, Bulgaria, Saudi Arabia and Germany.

Japanese mesmerise Jordanians at Jerash

By Noreen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The winds of the Far East warmed the stones of the ancient city of Jerash on Wednesday and Thursday nights as Western music blended with Japanese magic to cajole and stimulate the crowds into silent absorption and open the doors for unprecedented communication between the two estranged cultures of Jordan and Japan.

The Japanese community in Jordan sat back with unexplained pride in what is yet to come, a crowd of over 2,000 people shifted meekly on the hard stone seats of the South Theatre at Jerash while a Japanese-dressed Jordanian lady introduced the Schochiku Kagaki Dan (SKD) Japanese folk song and dance troupe.

Red lights seeped onto the dust brown background. Almost thirty young women started moving on the stage as the first sounds of a familiar music strongly enveloped the scene and announced the first victory for the Japanese group over the apprehensive crowd.

For two hours after that, the artists teased the crowd into multi-faceted shows of Japanese cul-

ture introduced through different mechanisms.

Sometimes using modern rock rhythms sometimes classical music but always with varying degrees of Japanese influence.

The meaning of the words were no longer a hurdle in the face of the uncomprehending crowd as the group introduced images through facial expressions, costumes and colours which bewildered the now alive pillars of the Romans.

The sketches varied from abstract images of vague emotions, the sweat of hard work during harvest, child-like feelings of anger and jealousy, traditions, religion, war, classical shows of artistic ability to cabaret shows of feminine attraction.

Towards the end of the show the crowd found themselves moving with understanding to the rhythm of Japanese songs, feeling the pain, the happiness and the dilemmas of the sweet words sung by what by now had become a familiar culture. For two hours on those two nights Jordanians found that they could understand Japanese.

Sayonara.



The Japanese folk troupe in action in Jerash

Masaadeh explains guidelines for parliamentary polls

Ministry prepares necessary steps for holding elections

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masaadeh Thursday said that the Royal letter of designation to the government of Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker has delineated the broad guidelines for the government.

The letter, he noted, has provided for the restoration of parliamentary life, following the removal of all obstacles, resulting from the June 1967 war and following Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative relations with the occupied West Bank as well as its recognition of the Palestinian state.

Speaking at a press conference, Masaadeh said the ministry is embarking on the necessary steps for holding the general elections, including registration, nominations, polling and announcing of results.

Masaadeh pointed out that the letter of designation has stressed the need for enhancing national unity as well as respecting the freedom of opinion. It has also called for quiet and meaningful dialogue among the citizens and between citizens and officials.

"The government's commitment to hold the general elections at the nearest possible time, is designed to counter the rumours and speculations that elections will be postponed or that the government will be setting up alternative institutions, such as the legislative council or the National Consultative Council, because it is not the right time," the minister said.

Speaking on the amendments to the election law, Masaadeh said that they included organisational issues, dealing with the

voter card, and increasing the number of seats and their distribution.

The minister said that there are no restrictions on nominations and that any citizen can nominate himself at any constituency in Jordan. However, registration is limited to the place where a voter works or resides in.

Masaadeh pointed out to the authorities entrusted to the interior minister, in accordance with the law, saying that the minister "has the right to waive some of the information contained in the voter identity card, or some of the requirements."

Masaadeh said he would exclude the photo from the voter identification documents upon receiving the card.

The exclusion of the photo, in accordance with the recent amendment, is designed to facilitate the election process and to encourage the largest number of eligible voters to vote, Masaadeh noted.

The minister stressed the importance of general elections saying that they are the first elections for more than 20 years, and that is why the government is concerned with holding them in the most responsible and careful manner, to reflect the peoples aspirations and wishes in restoring parliamentary life.



Minister of Interior Salem Masaadeh Thursday briefs journalists on the forthcoming elections (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan).

On the voter registration tables, Masaadeh said the ministry will adopt the existing ones, after updating and revising them in the constituencies where no changes have been made, but as for constituencies that have been subject to amendments in accordance with the cabinet's decisions Wednesday, new voter registration lists will be prepared.

Answering a question on holders of green, yellow cards and temporary passports, Masaadeh said that under the law only holders of yellow cards have the right to vote.

Expatriates also have the right to vote but only inside the country, Masaadeh said.

The minister attributed the increase of the number of parliamentary seats from 72 to 80 to the population growth and to the various residential concentrations which should be represented. Masaadeh gave no date for the

elections saying that it is difficult to tell from now when the elections will be held because a period of 93 days from the first day of registration for election should lapse before holding elections, this period is needed for the preparation of tabulations, contests in nominations and resignation of nominees from their posts, he noted.

On women's participation in the elections, Masaadeh said he hopes that women will enjoy the right to elect and be elected. He stressed the women's role as an active element in the society. The minister dismissed as less the news that a special committee has been formed to prepare the national charter, reaffirming that the government will embark on the preparatory work in the near future to organise political work, and with the economic situations public affairs.

Seminar calls for ensuring best use of remittances

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Jamal Al Bdour Thursday stood in for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, in opening a one-day symposium on the role of expatriates in developing their country, which was held in preparation for the 5th Jordanian Expatriates Conference, due to be held here Saturday.

In remarks before the symposium, Bdour said that the Jordanian economy is characterised by openness to both the international and Arab economies and is affected by the various regional and international economic changes.

He stated that due to the global economic recession, Jordanian economic growth has slowed, prompting the government to embark on a number of measures designed to revitalise all sectors and to encourage industrialisation and high-yielding projects.

The minister added that the phase that the country is passing through makes it incumbent on all Jordanians, be they residents in Jordan or expatriates, to rely on their fellow citizens and to utilise all available resources.

Also addressing participants was Deputy Prime Minister of State for Economic Affairs Taher Masri, who praised Jordanian expatriates for their role in reviving the Jordanian economy during the period from 1974 to 1984. He called on them to invest their money in the country.

However, Masri noted, "the government should provide investment guarantees through banks and financial companies, and should encourage these entities by providing incentives to draw up investment programmes capable of attracting expatriates' savings."

Masri also called for the speeding up of work to implement the privatisation process in order to broaden investment opportunities available for expatriates.

He also stressed the need for the development of Social Security Corporation (SSC) programmes which expatriates can benefit from and which can be promoted by SSC officials in countries where Jordanian expatriates work.

Masri called for embarking on intensive political activities with the oil-rich countries with the objective of finding job opportunities for Jordanians there.

Masri stressed the government's interest in enhancing dialogue and an exchange of views with Jordanians working abroad. He pointed out that the government is keen on seeking the expatriates' opinions and advice on the possibility of enacting legislation giving expatriates some privileges and incentives to return. "Such legislation would permit expatriates to remit part of their income through banking institutions or invest savings in productive projects," Masri said.

He described the corrective method followed by the government to administer its financial resources and the Kingdom's hard currency resources, as a means of restoring stability to the local currency and eliminating problems in the economy and shoring confidence in it.

At the end of the symposium, participants made the following

recommendations:

— Draw up a strategy, ensuring the best use of remittances and define the best means for utilising such remittances in setting up investment projects.

— Make use of qualified Jordanian expatriates in developing the technological and competitive power of the national economy.

— Call on the government to take the necessary measures to ensure a further degree of economic and stability, with a view to increasing savings and directing them towards productive investment projects.

— Provide more facilities to expatriates to encourage them to increase their investments in the various economic sectors.

— Call on the banks and financial institutions to draw up investment programmes capable of attracting the expatriates' savings, and entrust the Amman Financial Market with providing all information on the investment opportunities available to expatriates on a regular basis.

— Stress the recommendations adopted at previous conferences on facilitating procedures and

putting an end to the bureaucracy and correcting the malpractices in administering economic projects.

— Call on the Central Bank of Jordan to work towards stabilising the exchange rate of the local currency against foreign currencies so as to boost the volume of savings and investment in the local market.

— Impose a new tax entitled "Honour Tax", under which any Jordanian working abroad will pay \$100 annually in an effort to help the country overcome the present difficult economic circumstances.

— Call the Central Bank to issue loan debentures, whereby every Jordanian working abroad should buy such debentures at a nominal value of \$500 per debenture to be settled in accordance with a special regulation to be drawn up for this purpose.

— Amend the conscription, whereby Jordanians who are bound by the law to undergo military service, and exchange part of the service period for foreign currency, in accordance with a special regulation to be

drawn up for this purpose.

— Form a special committee, representatives from both the private sector and the expatriates, follow up on the expatriates' decisions and recommendations.

During the evening session, Jordanian expatriate Hussein Majdalawi announced the establishment of a \$8.5 million company to exploit granite rock resources in the south of Jordan. Majdalawi said that the feasibility study undertaken has found that the first year earnings will be in the range of \$20 million, and that these will increase by 20 percent annually.

Another Jordanian working in Oman said Thursday that the Jordanian community in Oman has established a joint Jordanian-Oman public shareholding company with an initial capital of 1 million.

Mohammad Kamal Al Zay, representative of the Jordanian community in Oman, said the founders of the company — 70 people — have collected 45,000 and are planning to buy the company's shares for subscription.

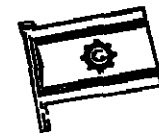
ANNOUNCEMENT

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Jordan Times

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Waiting for the Americans

By David Hirst

FOR 40 years, complained the PLO's second-in-command, Abu Iyyad, the Israelis kept telling us that all we have to do is sit down at the table, look each other in the eye, and talk. "But now that we are asking for that, it is they who refuse."

He predicted that the Israeli government would veto the two eminently respectable American citizens of Palestinian origin proposed by the PLO as its representatives for direct negotiations.

The direct talks are the latest attempt by the PLO chairman, Mr. Yasser Arafat, to break the deadlock which the dialogue between the U.S. ambassador, Mr. Robert Pelletreau, and PLO officials here has now reached.

The stumbling block is the plan by the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, for elections in the occupied territories. Ostensibly these are to choose Palestinian representatives who would negotiate an interim period of "self-rule" as a prelude to further negotiations for a final settlement.

While the Americans back the plan as an opportunity to further the peace process, the PLO scorns it, in its present form, as a subterfuge designed to undermine the intifada and perpetuate the occupation.

In the last June 8 session of the "dialogue," Mr. Pelletreau suggested that the PLO designate West Bank and Gaza personalities to discuss the precise "modalities" of the elections with the Israelis, to make sure that these are "free and fair," as the Americans say they should be.

Only if they secure the approval of the PLO, do the Israelis have any chance of staging the

elections in the first place, and the idea behind the U.S. proposal is to enable them to win effective PLO support for their plan, while preserving the fiction that they are still having nothing to do with a "terrorist" organisation which remains bent on Israel's "destruction".

It is not for the Israelis to dictate who would represent him, Mr. Arafat replied, but, in his counter-proposal, he made another gesture of goodwill: The delegation of "insiders" should be supplemented by "outsiders" of his choice. For however doughty supporters of the PLO the insiders might be, only outsiders would incontestably be seen to derive their authority from Mr. Arafat himself.

Professor Edward Said and Mr. Ibrahim Abu Lughud are two outsiders whom Mr. Arafat has in mind. Public relations dictates such a choice: it is difficult for the U.S. to turn down a man like Professor Said, a professor of comparative literature at Columbia University, author, music critic, American, he is about as far from the "terrorist" image as one could get.

Since the Israeli response seems a foregone conclusion, it is the Administration's which PLO officials anxiously await. On past American form, they are not optimistic.

Since the PLO's offer of a "two-state" solution, they are increasingly disconcerted at the apparent U.S. failure to recognise this for the act of magnanimity — the abandonment of three quarters of the original Palestinian homeland — which they consider it to be, and to take serious, practical steps to extract an "historic compromise" from the Israelis in return.

"Unfortunately," said one, "the administration still thinks only in terms of the current balance of power. It is still so scared of Congress and the Jewish lobby that it always chooses the easier, short-term course and instructs Pelletreau: tell those bloody Palestinians to be reasonable and accept what Shamir is offering them, even though it knows that he is offering them nothing."

The U.S. is trying, on the face of it, to find some theoretical equidistance between the new Palestinian position and the old, Israeli one. However, PLO officials contend that even if it were really doing that it would still amount, in the light of the PLO's own historic concession, to continued partisanship in Israel's favour.

But in practice, they argue, it is not. It is still trailing in the wake of the Israeli political juggernaut, as it lurches further to the right. "We are now called on to weep over the softness of Shamir, and the troubles he faces from General Sharon and settlers who are even more fanatic than he. It seems that only Israelis and Americans are advanced and democratic enough to have constituencies to worry about, never Arafat."

A key negotiator, Mr. Yasser Abd Rabbo, explains that even if the U.S. were to secure the "modalities" of free and fair elections — which, with the Israelis still denying the Palestinians the right to call themselves PLO supporters, seems improbable — that would not be enough on its own. The PLO remains adamant about the need for the all-important, political "linkage" between elections and the "final status" of the territories — that is, statehood — to which the Palestinians

right to "self-determination" entitles them. "All they offer us now is linkage to negotiations for the final status," which, says Mr. Rabbo, at the present rate, would carry them well into the next century.

Sooner or later, the PLO insists, the Americans must have it out with the Israelis. There is no other way forward: Mr. Arafat has run out of substantive concessions. The belief that this U.S.-Israeli battle royal will eventually come is what sustains Palestinian interest in the dialogue; otherwise, it would be a waste of time.

The PLO leadership is not yet desperate for it. True, it worries about the lack of progress, and the increasingly ugly situation in the territories which it sees as the consequence. The inhabitants will surely be goaded, sooner or later, into that armed retaliation which it has been the systematic purpose of the intifada to avoid.

PLO headquarters quickly disowned the inside leadership's controversial communiqué number 40, of late May, which called for "the liquidation of one soldier or settler for every martyr of our people." But the mood it reflected persists, re-surfacing, in vaguer rhetorical form, in the latest communiqué, number 41 of mid-June. Mr. Arafat does not want such a dangerously uncontrollable escalation.

But the prospect of it does lend weight to his lieutenants' repeated insistence, in the dialogue, on the increasing urgency of American action to stop the rot.

If that does not materialise, it won't be the end of the world for Mr. Arafat and the existing PLO leadership. They have a lot of capital to draw on — the conviction that the intifada will continue, the PLO's standing in the

Arab world, continuing diplomatic gains in Europe, Israel's disarray — and they are deeply, one might almost say serenely, conscious of it.

"We are at the summit of our influence," says Abu Iyyad, with the air of a man who is stating the obvious. "The Palestinian people are putting all their hopes in our leadership. Only when these hopes are crushed will the people transfer their enthusiasm from the moderates to the extremists — to Hamas (the Muslim fundamentalists), to Ahmad Jibril or Abu Nidal." But that is a good way off yet.

The PLO can afford to wait a while for that critical change of American policy which, it believes, alone can prevent the situation in the occupied territories getting out of hand. In its view, it should simply be a matter of time — and more blood — before it comes. For PLO officials are persuaded, from the questioning about communiqué number 40, that the Administration is at least as worried as they are about the spiral of violence, and

the danger it spells, not just for the Palestinians, but for Israel.

It is a worry that has so far yielded no more than scraps for the PLO. It considers that the "upgrading" of the dialogue, however welcome, falls essentially into that category. Breaking out of the formal sessions, Mr. Pelletreau has recently taken to lunching with Abu Iyyad and others, and there are rumours that Mr. Denis Ross, the state department's chief Middle East policy-maker, may come to Tunis.

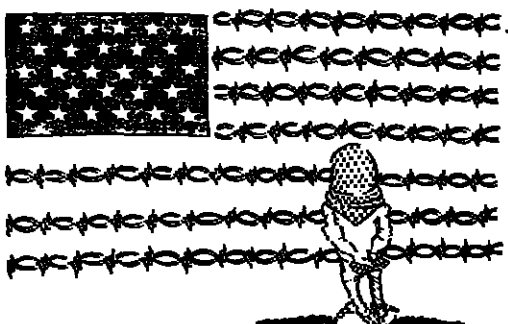
Indeed, there are even rumours that the Administration is preparing to drop the Shamir election plan. But the only concrete thing on the PLO's horizon is the Administration's answer to Mr. Arafat's counter-proposal. If it says yes to Professor Edward Said, that could, officials believe, signal the start of the indispensable U.S.-Israeli showdown. If it says no, "well then," sighed one, "we shall just have to keep on biting our fingers till Washington finally grasps the obvious: that it alone can save Israel from itself" — The Guardian.

Driven by despair

WHILE NO one would gloat over the bus incident in Israel which claimed the lives of many Israelis Thursday, it must be clear to all concerned that the Palestinian who drove the bus to disaster was himself driven by despair and outrage over the hundreds of his countrymen killed by Israeli bullets since the intifada erupted 18 months ago. What no doubt added to the sufferings and injuries of the Palestinians and their sense of frustration is the surrender of the Israeli ruling establishment to the whims and ultimatums of the extremists within the Likud Party. With no glimmer of hope left shining on the landscape of the Palestinian case and with all the voices of moderation and reason within Israel effectively silenced, no wonder Palestinians have been left with no alternative but to resort to desperate actions.

One has to be blind not to see that the patience and restraint exercised by the Palestinians thus far have been stretched in inhuman limits, especially in view of the fact that the ruling Israeli government has yet to comprehend the message of their uprising. How many more Palestinians must be killed before the Palestinians' call to arms will occur? As if six hundred Palestinians already killed — many of whom children and women — are not enough, Israel's military machine is still pushing the Palestinians to limits beyond human endurance by shooting to death and injuring scores of Palestinians almost on a daily basis.

Something must be done to break the cycle of bitter and hateful violence that now permeates life between the Palestinians and the Israelis. There is no better way to start this process than by giving the Palestinians some hope that their legitimate and reasonable yearnings and aspirations are finally being understood by the Israeli people. There were few isolated moments in past months when genuine contacts were established between the two peoples. Much anticipation was generated by these brief spots of hope and goodwill. There was also the expectation that much more could be constructed on what modest improvement was registered in the Palestinian-Israeli relations. But, alas, all initial hope and positive anticipation quickly have given way to despair. Then came the Likud-Labour agreement Wednesday to kill all remnants of hope by signalling to the Palestinians that the five infamous conditions of Sharon, Levy and Modai will i.e., no non-Israeli sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza Strip, no Palestinian state in these territories, an end to the uprising, no negotiations with the PLO, and continued settlements in the occupied territories will henceforth be the gospel of Israeli politics for as long as one can see. No wonder the Palestinian who drove the Israeli bus to death and destruction was driven by this new level of frustration and despair that Palestinians feel.



Adnan — Sawt Al Shaab

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily commented Friday on Jordan's return to parliamentary life and said that the Jordanian people welcome the coming elections and the amendment of the election law that opened the way for the process to go ahead. The paper said that the Jordanian people will no doubt respond favourably by word and deed, and will react with responsibility and with keenness and in a manner that would enhance the national unity. Return to parliamentary life is an exercise of democracy which the Jordanian people are keen to maintain in the Kingdom; and there is no doubt that the coming election and the time between now and the election day would reflect this feeling and this attitude, the paper added. It said that it is only natural to expect a favourable response on the part of the public, corresponding to the government's favourable decision to call for the election, and to emphasise the need for legislative authority to work side by side with the executive authority.

Al Dustour daily commented on King Hussein's nation-wide address and said that the monarch assured his people that he was well but that his pre-scheduled commitments had forced him to leave. The paper referred to the King's emphasis on the fact that the government was preparing the country for elections and that it was acting in implementation of the Royal directives. Jordan, as the King said in his address, had overcome many hardships in the past, and that it will continue to do so in the future, and that no pressure of any kind can deviate the Kingdom from its national course, the paper continued. It said that the government will no doubt act in harmony with the directives of King Hussein who cared no effect and no sacrifice for his nation; and noted that the King's words had affected the feelings of the Jordanian people who wish their leader a safe return.

Al Shaab daily also referred in its editorial to the King's address to the nation in which he explained the reason for his absence during the Eid Al Adha feast. The paper also noted that King Hussein seized the opportunity to send greetings to the people of occupied Palestine and paid tribute to their continued struggle for freedom. The King has made it clear that Jordan will continue to resist all forms of pressure and will overcome all difficulties in its march towards serving the Arab Nation's cause, the paper added. It said that the Jordanian people will continue to follow the King's directives and maintain the momentum of their towards achieving progress.

New phase in Europe's unification

By James M. Markham

PARIS — The European Community is a ponderous, plodding institutional elephant. Even when it makes momentous decisions, they are often dismissed as lofty aspirations or lowest-common-denominator fudges that put off hard choices until tomorrow.

In 1985, for example, community leaders adopted the Single European Act, declaring that they intended to create a borderless market by the end of 1992 and to strive for "the progressive realisation of economic and monetary union." Few realised at the time that the Single Act would prod the elephant into a gallop.

At a summit meeting in Madrid last week, the 12 community leaders may have crossed another threshold. With the 1992 project now well advanced, though not without its hitches and uncertainties, the 12 took a sharp turn down the long road toward the creation of a European central bank and a European currency.

In so doing, most of them acknowledged that it will eventually be necessary to surrender even larger chunks of sovereignty to the still amorphous entity that for want of a better term is usually called "Brussels." In the mouths of those leery of it, "Brussels," where the community has its headquarters, has the same malodorous connotation that "Washington" does for states-rights politicians in the United States.

Yet Brussels is not an abstraction; its political will is the sum of the political wills of 12 sometimes disputatious nations. And if the community is unleashing forces

that will create pan-European business and markets for 320 million consumers, it may inevitably need pan-European mechanisms to control them.

Madrid had been billed as the summit meeting where Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the most vociferous defender of national "sovereignty," would be decisively isolated. President Francois Mitterrand of France, for one, was eagerly poised for a high-noon showdown with Mrs. Thatcher that would oblige her to choose between going along with the 11 or going it alone.

Last week, France took over the community's six-month rotating presidency, and Mr. Mitterrand is determined to tighten monetary cooperation and write some guarantees for blue-collar workers into the 1992 blue-print.

Yet in the end, the battle of Madrid did not happen. As she has in the past, Mrs. Thatcher went along with — and helped shape — a compromise. And without saying so, she demonstrated again that Britain's economic and even political destiny lies with Europe, and not in splendid isolation or in a cozy relationship with the United States.

In Madrid, the 12 agreed that by July 1, 1990, they would broaden the European Monetary System, a nine-nation network of linked exchange rates, to coincide with an end to exchange controls and obstacles to community-wide banking, securities and insurance operations. Mrs. Thatcher considerably softened her opposition to bringing Britain into the Euro-

pean Monetary System, a boycott that many of her closest advisers have opposed.

Sometime after July 1990, a conference will gather to draft amendments to the Treaty of Rome, the community's 32-year-old founding charter, that would permit the creation of a European central bank and a European currency.

Mr. Mitterrand wanted a commitment to complete the conference by 1992, but the Madrid accord left its mandate open-ended. With astringent frankness, Mrs. Thatcher said that when the time came, Britain would vote against the convening of the conference and would be isolated on the vote. But Britain, she said, will participate, hoping to influence the ultimate contours of the monetary union.

After last week's meeting, the question seems to be not whether there will be a European central bank and, eventually, a European currency, but what form the new system will take. By staying in a game that may last until the end of this century, Mrs. Thatcher wants to see the emergence of European monetary institutions that will preserve the nub of sovereignty in a peaceful era: freedom to fix budgets, and to run budget deficits.

The programme sketched by Jacques Delors, the European Commission's Socialist president, would give Brussels highly interventionist powers to determine national budget deficits. But this is not a historical necessity. The wider European backdrop

to the summit meeting may have condemned the 12 countries to success. Brisk steps towards closer cooperation seem especially urgent at a time when Eastern Europe is in the midst of political upheaval and West Germany is caught between its allegiances to the West and a growing sense of mission to the East. Mr. Mitterrand, among others, acutely feels the need to anchor the Federal Republic in the community and to revive a flagging enthusiasm among Germans for its institutions. Chancellor Helmut Kohl himself had an interest in Madrid in not forcing the pace on monetary union as he has important constituents in West Germany — not least the mighty Bundesbank — who have their own reservations.

Mrs. Thatcher's anti-Brussels tirades have opened splits not only with her advisers but within her Conservative Party as well. Some Tories fear that she is needlessly antagonising Britain's European partners, tilting at "socialist" and "bureaucratic" windmills that exist more in her imagination than in the reality of Brussels.

Last month, moreover, the opposition Labour Party overtook the Conservatives in the elections to the European Parliament, serving up a reminder that Mrs. Thatcher is not a permanent fixture of the political landscape. Her battles at the Madrid summit meeting may go down as footnotes to the history of the construction of Europe — The New York Times.

OPEN FORUM

Let us sustain our momentum

WE have recently witnessed a milestone in the future of curriculum development in Jordan, one we should take care to hold onto lest we lose our momentum.

I refer to the recent activity in the movement towards the introduction of drama in education as a learning medium within our educational establishments. This is by no means a first, enthusiasm for the subject has been aroused by the thoughtful educators in numerous fields since the mid-seventies. However, matters have made significant progress in recent months.

In official quarters we have witnessed the first conference on drama in education sponsored by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund; this in itself was a landmark and I wish to refer to this shortly. The Noor Al Hussein Foundation has also been active with the introduction of in-service training for serving elementary teachers and the promise of more to come. Several months ago the members of the private schools' in-service training programme held a demonstration workshop on methods employed in British schools, this was held at the International Community School and teachers from numerous schools and institutions attended. Such positive activity in one year has also stirred up a plethora of material in the newspapers and an excellent and informative television documentary.

For those unlucky enough to have been oblivious to these dramatic developments let me briefly expound the outcome of the most recent of these, that being the conference held last month by the Queen Alia Fund. The culmination of the seminar led to recommendations which, should they come to fruition, would indeed extend and enhance the future of education for our children i.e. that steps would be taken to train teachers in the use of drama in education, to bring it into our system, to make material available for the use of our educators and extend our expertise.

A highlight in the seminar was the presence of a British Council sponsored drama adviser from the North-Suffolk authority, Patrick Redsell, who demonstrated his approach to the subject and expounded current developments in the subject in Britain.

Redsell was not the first expert to visit Amman. In March, 1983, David Johnston spent two weeks on a similar mission as the guest of the Friends of Children Club, and his visit too stirred up tremendous enthusiasm.

This is my point, for some time now, Jordan has been making all the right moves to understand the subject. We must now act, no longer hesitate or work in isolation. We must pool our resources, share the expertise we have in the country of those in the field who are willing to do start this process.

The road will not be easy. There is much groundwork to set down, but any future inactivity will let, yet, another generation who could be enriched by this learning medium, slip through our fingers. We owe it to them.

Britain, the home of many of the leading authorities in the field such as Dorothy Heathcote and Gavin Bolton, experienced teaching pains in the use of drama in education; yet, we are in a position to look at their experience in the last twenty years, with hindsight and adapt their experience to the needs of our young people.

We have been waiting for 15 years. Let us agree as a body of experts on a definition of the subject, i.e. drama in education, as a cross curriculum process of active learning. A way of giving our children a child centred experience; one in which the child is safe to try out his emotions.

In conclusion let me say drama in education implies active learning. Indeed the very root of the word drama means to "do." The ancient Egyptians were the first to attempt to use drama as a means of understanding their role in life, a tradition often accredited to the ancient Greeks, who were the most active in setting down the rules and mores of dramatic form, should we not continue what Arab blood began?

Edwina A. Issa
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مكتبة الأمل

Malarial parasite developing resistance to common drugs

By Melinda Ham
The Associated Press

ANTYRE, Malawi — Two-year-old Kennedy Mkwandawire is playing in his backyard when suddenly his eyes began rolling, tiny frame convulsed and his head blazed with fever. Within hours, the child was in a Blantyre hospital, barely alive by an intravenous drip and the constant attention of doctors and nurses. Kennedy was suffering from classic, telltale symptoms of cerebral malaria, the severest form of one of Africa's most deadly diseases. Unlike a million or so other children who die of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa each year, Kennedy was lucky. The hospital found him after a few days, but experts fear that as the malarial parasite carried by the Anopheles mosquito becomes in-

creasingly resistant to cheap, common drugs, fewer Africans will survive in the future.

"Malaria is probably the single most important infectious disease that exists in Africa today," says Sir Ian McGregor, an expert on the disease with the World Health Organisation.

Who studies bear him out: — Nine-tenths of all malaria victims in the world are Africans, and most of those are children.

— In many areas where the anopheles mosquito breeds best — lowlands, with high daytime temperatures and heavy seasonal rains — more than half the victims have not been responding to drugs like chloroquine that were almost 100 per cent effective two decades ago.

Last year, 600,000 Zimbabweans contracted malaria, but the figure has risen to 900,000 in the first five months of 1989 alone,

according to deputy Health Minister Swinburn Mubeshora.

In Tanzania, Malawi's northern neighbour, the situation is even worse. Last year, one in 12 of Tanzania's 24 million inhabitants developed malaria and 4,000 of the victims died.

Malawi's National Malaria Control Committee, relying on researchers like Dr. Jack Wirima, the agency's chairman, has worked with U.S. backing for five years to discover how the malarial parasite built its resistance to drugs and to devise a new chemical weapon.

The diminished effectiveness of chloroquine — long the cheapest, safest and most accessible anti-malaria drug in Africa — was first noticed by Americans in Vietnam in the 1960s and 70s, but scientists in Africa didn't spot the trend until the 1980s.

The Malawi team found that

while malaria was responsible for 9 per cent of all child deaths in the country in 1983, that rate doubled within four years.

Wirima shares many researchers' fears that the death toll will escalate unless a safe, effective and cheap alternative can be found soon.

An additional danger in Africa from malarial infection is the possibility of acquiring AIDS, the deadly immune deficiency disease for which there is no known cure.

Dr. Carlos Campbell of the U.S. Centres for Disease Control found that 9 per cent of malaria-stricken children in Zaire's capital, Kinshasa, became infected with AIDS from blood transfusions. Few hospitals in Africa have proper blood-screening equipment.

Young children are most at risk from malaria because they have not developed the kind of im-

munity adults often build up, slowly and painfully through repeated attacks.

Ignorance among many of Africa's 550 million people, lack of basic sanitation and shortages of state money to fight the disease have extended the continent's breeding grounds.

In Zimbabwe, which boasts the best preventive health programmes in black-ruled Africa, the government spends only about \$800,000 a year on malaria control.

Health workers spray rural homes with DDT, a powerful but cheap insecticide often used by poor Third World nations to kill the malaria-bearing mosquito.

But villagers often bolt their doors on the health teams, complaining that the insecticide stains furniture, smells bad and doesn't kill other household pests like cockroaches and bedbugs.



Wadi Rum

Jordan from above



Dead Sea

Pictures by Arslan Ramadan

Solar car wizard prepares for first U.S. Tour de Sol

By Catherine Arnst
Reuters

MBRIDGE, Mass. — He is 22, but James Worden has already built seven solar-powered cars, the first when he was 16. Now in his final year at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Worden expects to start producing and selling a two-wheeled "commuter car" in 18 months.

Worden and his racing model, Solectria, are currently starting in a television commercial for Dow Chemical, his principal sponsor. He is also preparing a completely new model, the Solax, with a wedge-shaped aluminum body that resembles a miniature jet fighter. The Solax will be finished in about a month and Worden says it will operate on solar power, with no boosting batteries,

at a speed of 84 kilometres per hour. That would be enough to break the solar land speed record of 78 kilometres per hour set by General Motors last year.

Earlier this year Worden entered an upgraded solectria in a 400 kilometre four-day race from Montpelier, Vermont, to the MIT campus in Cambridge, near Boston — the first American Tour de Sol.

The race was modelled after the Swiss Tour de Sol, the pre-eminent event of the solar world. Now in its fifth year, the Swiss race attracts more than 120 participants from around the world. Worden has raced in it three times, and was placed 12th last year.

The American Tour de Sol, like its Swiss cousin, is a rally event, with two hours of actual road time each day and the rest of the day spent on recharging bat-

teries and maintenance.

Last September his Solectria V won the first solar car race held in North America, taking three hours and five minutes to cover a 257 kilometre course in California.

Like driving formula one

"It's a lot like driving a formula one racing car," Worden said of the Solectria as he unveiled his newest model, the VI, to the press.

It resembles a go-cart, but the fragile looking vehicle can go at speeds of up to 145 kilometres per hour while utilising a power system that generates only 10 horsepower.

The Solectria to be raced in the Tour de Sol weighs about 135 kilograms and measures 4 by 1.7 by 0.7 metres.

Its rectangular-shaped surface

is covered with solar cells and the energy they gather is stored in a specially designed battery that is about twice the size of a car battery. Worden said the car can run for about 320 to 480 kilometres without sun.

The design is a model of efficiency, and Worden said he was particularly proud of the rather minute power train. "That was the most fun to design," he said of his engine, transmission and other mechanical parts that transfer power to the wheels.

To conserve energy when going down hills, electricity is sent back to the battery whenever pressure

is applied to the brakes.

"It handles pretty well," said Worden, "and it's really more comfortable than it looks."

He acknowledges that solar racing cars are not the answer to the world's energy problems, but says he is hoping that the publicity his Solectria attracts will make it easier for him to sell a more practical solar car for commuters.

"My aim and goal is a regular car that people can drive to and from work and around town," he said. He expects to have such a car in mass production in a year and a half, carrying a price tag of \$15,000 to \$20,000.

The Queens English — word from Prince Charles

By Robert Barr
The Associated Press

LONDON — The government has given up on drilling the queen's English into the skulls of her young, but the queen's English has not.

"All the nonsense these demagogues come up with," Prince Charles fumed, following a recent report that urges teachers to reject "we was" and other non-standard expressions as "objects of interest and value."

"All the people I have in my eye, they can't speak English properly, they can't write English properly. All the letters sent from office I have to correct myself, and that is because English is taught so bloody badly," the prince said recently at a seminar for the Foundation for Education-Business Partnerships.

"If we want people who write in English and write plays for the future, there is no way they do it with the present system. It is a fundamental problem — we must educate for character," he said.

Reaction was mixed as is usual in the case when Charles ventures into controversial areas. The 40-year-old prince is the product of an upper-crust private school that is known in Britain as public schools, and his use of the word "bloody" drew particular attention.

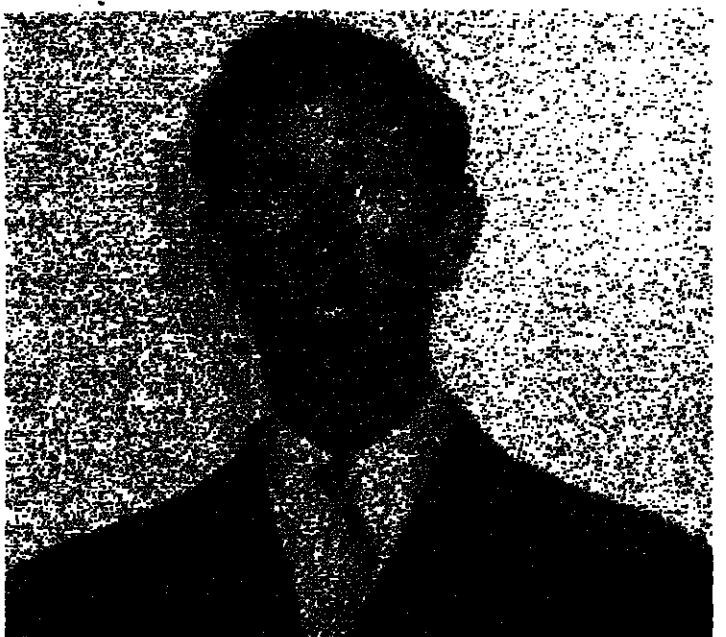
"If he has to swear, he is living the life of the public schools as bad as the state ones," reported Nigel De Gruchy, general secretary-elect of the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers. "The royal prerogative seems to mean ignoring all the evidence. The children now pass more time than ever before. He probably doesn't pay enough to attract right quality of staff to write letters."

The conservative Evening Standard, under the headline "The royal bad form," thought it fair of Charles publicly to criticise his own staff but said he was bent on attacking teaching standards.

Added the left-leaning Daily Mirror, parodying London plebeian: "Charles might have bin a bit out of order, but clichees from teachers is worse than bad spellings from secretaries, innit?" Doug McEvoy, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the prince "has received the benefits of a top education."

"To motivate children, you have to make lessons exciting and interesting, and you do not do it by teaching grammar by rote," McEvoy said.

That was the line taken by the government's working party on



Prince Charles making a point

English teaching, chaired by Professor Brian Cox of Manchester University.

"If Prince Charles read our report, and not just newspaper reports about it, he would find there was much he agreed with," Cox said.

The group's report, released last week, concluded that "grammatical drills and sentence parsing have come to be recognised as being mostly mechanical and uninteresting."

As for constructions such as "we was," "he ain't," "she come here yesterday" and "they never saw nobody," the report urged tolerance.

"There is little point in correcting the spoken language of pupils in any general way because it is unlikely to have a beneficial effect: against the pressures of home and peer group, teachers can have little hope of changing how pupils speak," the report said.

"If teachers concentrate on pupils' competence in written standard English, pupils will gain sufficient knowledge of standard English to be able to convert this into competence in spoken standard English when appropriate."

The Daily Telegraph twitted this conclusion with the headline: "English as she is spoke receives a good report."

Teaching unions my foot," snorted the prince's 80-year-old former headmaster, Col. Stuart Townsend.

"The prince would make a damned good minister of education," Townsend said. "The whole point is that this is England, English is our language and everyone who lives here should be able to communicate in English, not only in reading and writing, but in speech."

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مكتبة الأمل

Merger mania grips big accounting firms

NEW YORK (AP) — Two of the big eight accounting firms agreed Thursday to join forces, producing a company with more than 65,000 employees in 101 countries, and two larger firms confirmed they are negotiating a merger.

Touche Ross and Co. and Deloitte Haskins and Sells agreed in principle to the merger, which is subject to approval by both firms' partners. The firms said in a statement.

The combined company, which is to be known as Deloitte and Touche in the United States, would generate worldwide revenue of more than \$4 billion, the firms said.

Separately, Arthur Andersen and Co., and Price Waterhouse confirmed reports that they had begun talks about a possible merger of their worldwide operations. A confidentiality agreement will be in effect for the next 60 days while the proposition is being explored.

If an Andersen-Waterhouse merger were completed, it would create the world's largest accounting firm, reaping \$5 billion a year in worldwide revenue and \$2.7 billion in U.S. revenue.

Although Deloitte and Touche Ross are the smallest of the so-called big eight firms, they have posted the most rapid growth in recent years. Between 1985 and 1988, their individual worldwide revenue jumped more than 88 per cent, according to Bowman's Accounting Report, an industry publication.

Last year, their worldwide growth averaged 26 per cent, compared with an average of 22 per cent for the other big eight firms.

Deloitte and Touche Ross said their desire to "serve multinational companies in today's global economy" was a primary reason for the merger.

Edward Kangas, managing partner and chief executive of Touche Ross, and Deloitte chairman and chief executive officer J. Michael Cook pointed to the expected creation of a single market among the 12 European Community na-

tions in 1992 and the economic growth of the Pacific rim.

The combined firm will draw on the expertise of the Japanese audit firm Tomatsu Aoki and Sanwa, a member of the Touche Ross international organization.

Worldwide, the firm will be known as Deloitte Ross Tohmatsu International, and will employ more than 65,000 people in 101 countries.

Kangas and Cook will serve as chief executives of the international organization and the U.S. firm, respectively. Kangas also will serve as a managing partner of the U.S. firm.

Experts generally agreed that the merger makes sense, particularly because the accounting industry has become increasingly specialized.

Deloitte's audit clients include General Motors, Kimberly-Clark, Monsanto and Procter and Gamble, said Arthur Bowman, publisher of the Atlanta-based Bowman's Account Report.

Touche Ross's audit clients include American Motors, Chrysler, Litton Industries and Pillsbury, he said.

Deloitte also displays its strength in the mergers and ac-

quisitions arena. Bowman said the firm is a favourite of Kohlberg Kravis Roberts (KKR) and Co., the powerful New York investment firm.

KKR tapped Deloitte to perform a number of accounting-related services for its record \$25-billion buyout of RJR Nabisco.

The merger wave among the big eight firms began weeks ago with the announcement that Ernst and Whinney and Arthur Young and Co. agreed to combine their operations to create what would be the world's largest accounting firm with worldwide revenue of \$4.2 billion and domestic revenue of \$2 billion.

An Andersen-Waterhouse combination would eclipse that. Arthur Andersen is the second-largest U.S. accounting firm, while Price Waterhouse ranks fifth.

In a joint statement, Price Waterhouse chairman Joseph Connor and Arthur Andersen chief executive Lawrence S. Weinbach said the firms are seeking to benefit from the globalisation of world economies, accelerating technological changes and demand for new services and investments.

Together the two firms would audit almost 40 per cent of the Fortune 500, which could lead to Federal Trade Commission concerns about a competitive imbalance, Bowman said.



Salman Al Tarawneh

Expatriates get special income tax treatment

AMMAN (Petra) — Income Tax Department Director-General Salman Al Tarawneh said Friday that Jordanian expatriates who have not so far submitted their self-assessment taxation forms to the department will not be subject to the progressive fine imposed by the department at the monthly rate of two per cent going up to a maximum of 24 per cent of the tax amount.

Tarawneh noted that expatriates' other incomes, which originate outside the Kingdom, are totally exempted from income tax.

Speaking about the exemptions and facilities provided to investors in Jordan, Tarawneh said that, in accordance with the law, income earned from agricultural investments, raising poultry, fish, bees or livestock, and that resulting from the conversion of such products into commodities is totally exempted from the income tax.

Also, profits achieved from capital investments, including the sale and lease of land and real estate and buying and selling of bonds and shares are totally exempted, he noted.

However, Tarawneh said that income from house rentals is partly exempted.

The law also provided for exempting share dividends distributed by public shareholding companies from income tax, in addition to interest earned on public debt bonds and interest on deposits at banks and other financial institutions.

He added that under the investment encouragement law, net profits of certified economic projects will be exempted for five years. Moreover, any losses incurred by exporters during the first five years can be accumulated and deducted from the taxable income if the project starts kicking off and making profits following the first five years.

The law has also exempted new industries set up in industrial estates for the first two years following the production period. As for existing industrial projects, set up in industrial estates, the law has exempted them from income tax and social services tax for varying periods.

'Third oil crisis' in 1995 could herald sweeping global changes

This is the last part of a two-part article. In the first part, which appeared in last Wednesday's issue of the Jordan Times, Dr. Mamdouh Salameh, a London-based consultant to the World Bank, argued that there would be a real "third oil crisis" in the mid-1990s and that oil-producing Arab countries would enjoy unprecedented political clout as a result of the crisis, which is inextricably linked to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

By Ghadeer Taher
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In his doctorate dissertation, "Is a Third Oil Crisis Inevitable?" which he discussed with the Jordan Times in an interview, Mamdouh Salameh contends that rising oil needs rather than political motives could push the superpowers into confrontation in the Gulf and Middle East.

At present, the United States accounts for 25 per cent of the total global oil consumption, and imports 45 per cent of its needs, the lion's share of it from the Middle East.

The United States, the world's largest oil consumer, will be importing nine million barrels of oil a day by the year 1990, says Salameh. "By the mid-1990s, it will require as much as 15 million barrels a day of imports of oil or 65 per cent of its total needs."

On the other end of the East-West spectrum, the Soviet Union, the largest producer of oil in the world, is self-sufficient today, accounting for 24 per cent of global consumption. But, Salameh foresees that if the Soviet Union continues to supply part of its oil to its allies through barter deals and sell another part in the free market for hard currency, it will end up, along with its allies, a net importer of oil in 1995 with a collective daily requirement of 4.5 million barrels of imported oil by the mid-1990s.

"This thirst for oil and the competition over access to Middle East oil as well as conflict of interests, could be a flashpoint for a serious confrontation between the superpowers," Salameh predicts.

The researcher also sees a possible Soviet threat to Middle East oil producers. Pointing out that Soviet oil production peaked in 1985 and began to decline with little prospect of recovery, he argues that the expected dependence of Moscow and its allies on oil imports "at the very same moment that there will be a tightening of oil supplies in the world" could make the Gulf states vulnerable.

Furthermore, "the extreme volatility of Middle Eastern politics and the Arab-Israeli conflict also makes the Gulf area more tempting to military adventures and more vulnerable to destabilising and takeover efforts," he says.

The researcher doesn't seem to think that the United States poses a similar threat.

Salameh also points to the potential changes that the oil crisis could herald in the communist system. According to the researcher, East bloc countries will have to turn to the West for financial assistance as well as oil if and when the Soviet Union cuts its oil supplies to them. "The West will be willing to extend a helping hand but any such assistance will have political strings attached in the form of fundamental changes in their political system and structure."

He poses a hypothetical question: What will be the reaction of Moscow in such an eventuality?

Alternative sources

The World Bank consultant is sceptical over prospects for any viable alternative source of energy to replace oil in the immediate future, say in the next 25 years. He concedes that development of solar energy could be successful but it cannot replace oil.

The industrialised countries will have no choice but to increase their reliance on nuclear energy but at a very high cost, he says but also points out that there is already growing aversion towards using such energy in the wake of the several nuclear disasters around the world, including the American Three-Mile Island accident and the Chernobyl tragedy in the Soviet Union.

Coal, he says, will remain economically unviable as a source of energy as long as the prices of oil remains at present levels. In addition, he says coal also has adverse effects on the environment.

"Any use of alternative energy sources will have to take the environmental into consideration," he says.

Retracing the origins of the drive to discover alternative energy sources, Salameh says that the industrialised nations' quest, which included energy conservation programmes, stepped up research on alternatives and exploration for new oil reserves, was prompted by the 1973 oil embargo.

"To some extent they achieved some success: between 1973 and 1979 they (Western industrialised countries) reduced their oil consumption by more than 12 per cent," he writes.

However, by 1979, these measures were enforced only to a limited extent, but, coupled with increased production by oil-producing states which needed revenues to sustain development, oil conservation policies went far enough that between 1981-1984 there was a glut in the market.

Double-edged sword

But the glut was also a double-edged sword for the industrialised countries. While they found a big financial burden alleviated with the dramatic decline in prices — an all-time low (in the glut years) of \$9 a barrel in 1986 from \$31 a barrel in 1986 — they also shelved or cancelled their conservation programmes and alternative energy research programmes. The U.S. and Canada even cancelled major synthetic fuel projects. When the glut was slowly petering out, most conservation and alternative energy projects were abandoned because their implementation was no longer seen as urgent.

With the rise in the consumption that followed, the pressure on oil prices began. The tightening of the market is obvious today, Salameh believes. "Even with production quota cheating by OPEC member states, the price of oil has not fallen. In February and March of this year, the price per barrel reached \$22 a barrel," he points out. "The quota violations had in fact brought in more oil into the market than officially admitted, but that did not have any serious impact on the price structure in the market. What does it mean: simply that there is no glut."

On energy conservation, Salameh is very firm. "Although conservation has been dubbed as the 'fifth fuel,' and as such it should be strictly enforced, there is a limit to what conservation could achieve. In spite of massive efforts to contain oil demand through conservation and to develop additional energy sources from traditional and new sources, the world oil imports will remain seriously dependent on OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) oil for the foreseeable future," Salameh says that, based on an

assessment on the level of depletion of oil reserves between now and the mid-1990s and the world potential to increase supplies, world oil demand can only be met if OPEC increases its oil production by a massive 70 per cent from its 1983 level. "The production of non-OPEC countries is very unlikely to exceed its 1983 level of 1,850 million tonnes and would have declined to 1,790 million tonnes in 1995 and 1,740 million tonnes by 2000," he says.

Further, he predicts, "assuming that there will be no significant change in oil prices, no immense loss of oil supply and no dramatic international political flare-ups, the factor which is most likely to produce a change in the oil supply-demand picture is the world economic recovery."

According to the researcher, the present world economic recovery cycle will lead to increased demand for oil, the "gradual elimination of the oil supply surplus and ultimate tightening of the oil market will make an increase in oil price increases inevitable."

The World Bank consultant predicts that the oil price in 1995 could be in the range of \$45 to \$50 a barrel.

Recommendations

What does Salameh advocate as possible remedies to minimise the predicted oil crisis of 1995?

"Any recommendation must embrace the political, economic and energy aspects of oil since the com-

modity touches every aspect of our life," he says.

He favours a multi-pronged approach, starting with addressing the political situation in the Middle East.

"Priority should be given to bringing the Palestinians and Israelis to the negotiating table so that they can work out an equitable settlement of the Palestinian problem," he says. "The settlement should provide security for the Israelis with international recognised borders and a homeland for the Palestinians which will satisfy their aspirations for statehood."

Such a settlement, which should also enjoy superpower guarantees, "will ensure the continuity of oil supplies from the Arab oil producers in the Gulf and give the industrialised nations breathing space to accelerate the development of synthetic fuel and alternative sources to reduce their dependence on oil," according to Salameh.

The second priority should be given to reaching "zero-growth" in energy consumption, he says. "We must radically change our lifestyles and adopt a way of life which uses less energy and oil."

Pointing out that about 20 per cent of today's global oil consumption is used by the transportation sector, Salameh calls for proper attention to be given to developing new means for propulsion other than the internal combustion engines. "Secondly, new fuels which do not involve the depletion of vital and limited energy sources should be developed with the utmost speed," he recommends.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, July 6, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	256.8	262.8	French franc	82.9	87.8
Pound Sterling	504.1	913.1	Japanese yen (for 100)	400.9	404.9
Deutschmark	294.9	297.8	Dutch guilder	261.6	264.2
Swiss franc	344.4	347.8	Swedish crown	36.4	37.1
			Italian lira (for 100)	40.9	41.3
			Belgian franc (for 10)	141.1	142.5

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	July 1-5	June 24-28
Daily average	JD 920,570	JD 1,389,536
Total volume	JD 4,602,850	JD 6,947,678
Total shares	2,454,888	3,912,382
No. of contracts	3,245	4,043

Sectoral trading:

	JD 3,312,333 (72.0%)	JD 4,301,932 (61.9%)
Industrial		
Financial	JD 878,640 (19.1%)	JD 1,574,331 (22.7%)
Service	(6.4%)	(8.8%)
Insurance	(2.5%)	(6.6%)
Share price index	126.2	127.9
No. of companies	62	64
Price movement (rise)	17	24
(decline)	37	26
(stable)	8	14

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.6210/20	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1905/15	Canadian dollar
	1.8890/87	Deutschmarks
	2.1275/85	Dutch guilders
	1.6240/50	Swiss francs
	39.51/54	Belgian francs
	6.4000/50	French francs
	1368/1369	Italian lire
	139.60/70	Japanese yen
	6.4525/75	Swedish crowns
	6.9325/75	Norwegian crowns
	7.3350/400	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	383.50/384.00	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

SYDNEY — The Australian share market closed higher in line with a buoyant resource sector and gains by blue chips. The All Ordinaries Index finished 7.7 up at 1,527.5.

TOKYO — Investment trust funds and brokers bought up market laggards and incentive-backed shares, boosting prices in moderate trading. The Nikkei Index firmed 280.49 to 33,703.97.

HONG KONG — Share prices closed slightly firmer after see-saw trading, with buyorders still coming in from overseas. The Hang-Seng Index rose 6.41 to 2,375.94.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed higher across the board in brisk trading, but were below the highs of the day on late profit-taking. The Straits Times Industrial Index climbed 17.13 to finish at another post-crash closing high of 1,335.69.

BOMBAY — Share prices drifted lower in light trading with most investors on the sidelines waiting for the volatile market to stabilise. Tata Steel fell 6.25 rupees to 1,471.25.

FRANKFURT — German shares ended a moderate session firmer, boosted by foreign demand as the mark remained strong against the dollar. The Dax Index rose 17.34 to 1,510.63.

ZURICH — Swiss share prices closed slightly higher in moderate trading with heavy turnover in Union Bank bearers. The All-Share Swiss Performance Index put on 4.2 to 1,112.

PARIS — French share prices turned easier at midday with oil stocks among the heaviest fallers. The 50-share price indicator was 0.35 per cent down after opening 0.02 lower.

LONDON — Share prices remained firmer in moderate afternoon business with Wall Street mixed after a fairly neutral set of U.S. employment figures. At 1330 GMT, the FTSE Index was 18.8 points up at 2180.0.

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks edged slightly higher after midday, continuing the erratic trading pattern of the morning. The Dow index was up two at 2,465.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

GULLIT HAS SUCCESSFUL SURGERY: Dutch soccer captain Ruud Gullit will be able to start training with European Cup champions AC Milan on July 24 after surgery on his right knee in Milan Wednesday. A statement from the Italian club said doctors had cleaned the cartilage and drained off fluid during the arthroscopic examination, which had shown the cartilage and ligaments to be in good condition. (R)

EAST GERMAN PIPS RONO: East German Hanke Fuhlbrügge upstaged Kenya's Olympic champion Peter Rono in the 1,500 metres at the Olympic day Grand Prix athletics event Thursday with a storming run on the final lap. Urged on by a huge partisan home crowd in Berlin, the East German picked his moment down the back straight on the last lap as Rono was looking to pull away. (R)

WADDLE LATEST RECRUIT FOR MARSEILLE: English international winger Chris Waddle Friday became the latest in a long line of soccer stars tipped to sign for French champions Marseille. "If we had all the players that are supposed to have signed for us, we'd have the best club in the world," one club supporter said. Marseille officials said "advanced negotiations" between the French club and Waddle's Tottenham Hotspur were taking place, but added no contracts had yet been signed. (R)

GYMNASTS GET PAY BOOST: America's top gymnasts are going for gold in more than one way during this weekend's 1989 U.S. Gymnastics Championships. Beginning with the meet being held at the met center from Friday to Sunday, the U.S. Gymnastics Federation will reward top performers to offset training expenses. The compensation program is called team '92. The top female finisher in this weekend's meet will receive \$16,000 in training-expense subsidies for her trust fund; the top man will get \$8,000 with the remaining \$8,000 going to the winner of the men's national meet next winter. Smaller payments go to the next seven finishers. "Team '92 makes a statement," said Mike Jacki, executive director of the U.S. Gymnastics Federation. "It says for the first time, if you're at the top of the heap, you get rewarded, which is kind of the way life works." (AP)

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 9865 ♥ K1052 ♦ A83 ♣ A7
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—In the modern style, a jump to three spades would be invitational, not forcing. Since you have full opening bid values and you know where you want to play the hand, jump to four spades. Any further move must come from partner.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 9852 ♥ QJ7 ♦ AK106 ♣ 95
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ DM 1 ♥ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—You have a pretty good hand facing a partner who could make a vulnerable takeout double. To show a hand of some 10-12 points, you have to jump, so the correct bid is three diamonds. Don't worry about having only a four-card suit; in effect, you are supporting one of partner's suits.

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 98 ♥ QJ10762 ♦ KJ92
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♥ 1 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—You have a very good hand, but don't hang partner for competing at this vulnerability. A jump to two no trump does your hand ample justice. If partner has a fair hand, he will bid again.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ KQ6 ♥ 872 ♦ AJ95 ♣ K74

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 ♥ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A.—With a full opening bid facing an announced opening, you want to be in game, and no trump is the obvious place to play the hand. Jump to three no trump. A jump to two no trump would be invitational, showing about 11 points and asking partner to go on only if he is better than dead minimum.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 9 ♥ AK7 ♦ AQ1087 ♣ A65
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 NT Pass ?

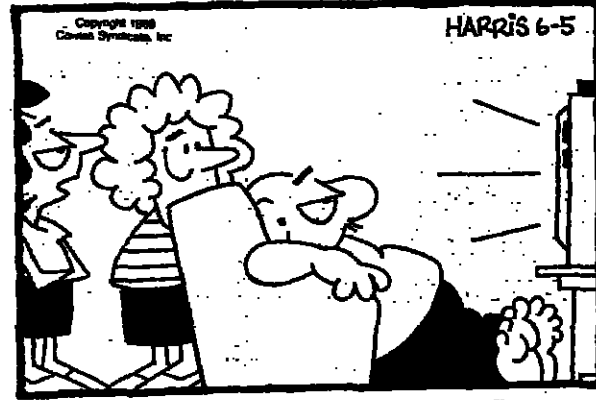
What action do you take?
A.—Partner is confirming a six-card spade suit on this auction, so you have an adequate trump fit. With soft values, you would select three no trump, but with prime cards, the suit contract should be safer. Bid four spades.

Q.6—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K83 ♥ 76 ♦ J98532 ♣ 72
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
3 ♠ DM ?

What action do you take?
A.—It's not a question of whether the opponents can make game, but whether they have a small or a grand slam. You should take some drastic action to disrupt their communications. It's simply a question of whether you should combine the preempt with five or six spades, and we have a decided preference for a full-blooded six spades.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Our love is stronger than a flea, deeper than a raindrop and bigger than dust. It could be worse."

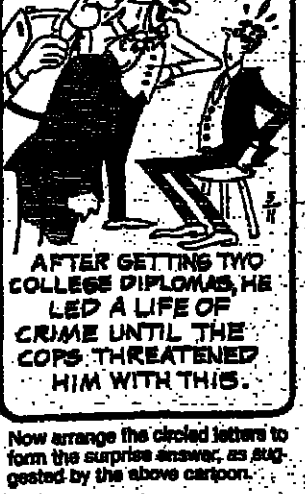
JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Amokt and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LECEX
NIDEK
CUROGH
WARTOD



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A (Answer tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumble: PRUNE OLDER VERIFY MORTAR
Answer: Every time he ran two hundred yards, he actually only did this—MOVED TWO FEET



Stefan Edberg

Prost leaves McLaren

LE CASTELLET, France (R)—Former world champion Alain Prost said Friday he was leaving the British McLaren team, though he did not yet know who he would be driving for next season.

Prost told a news conference there had been no disagreements with McLaren. "The decision was not easy to take, as I've had six fantastic years with McLaren. There's no problem between McLaren and myself," Prost added.

The Frenchman has frequently complained that Brazilian teammate Ayrton Senna received favorable treatment at McLaren. "The French media have said Prost plans to sign with Williams, a report Prost denied on June 30 when he also denied he was planning to leave McLaren."

Prost, world champion with McLaren in 1985 and 1986 and leader of this year's championship, said: "There has been a lot of speculation about my future and I have decided after long discussions with everyone involved that I am not going to drive for McLaren next year."

"It has not been a very quick decision from me because I was not very comfortable about making it quickly at this time of year. I have had long talks with Ron Dennis (McLaren's managing director) and with Mansour Ojeh (owner of the team's principal sponsor tag) before making my decision."

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Plerson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Today's events will help to turn negative factors into positive ones. Charm and friendliness will be the support of others. Focus on personal appearance, style, and apparel.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) With extra energy and drive, you can make new beginnings. Surprising things go your own way. You are an inspiration to others.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Scratch the luxury items off the shopping list. Be prudent. Family members can pull you in more than one direction. Be a leader.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Your charm and grace set the stage for a perfect day of dating and recreation. A lovely invitation could include travel.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A promise made must be postponed. The opposite sex considers their true feelings. A power struggle can be the result.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You are bothered by someone close and their peculiar eccentricity. Devote time to uncompleted projects. It is a day of progress.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) It is a good day to compromise with partners. Someone charming is irresistible, but you may have to say "no" to untimely requests.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) "See no evil, hear no evil" is the best guideline for this day. Don't let others disrupt your enchanting mood.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You instinctively know what to do. Confidence should not be used as an excuse for extravagance. Be open to travel invitations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Others find you very persuasive. Put work ahead of fun. Concentrate on putting your priorities in order. Don't risk finances on foolishness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A conventional approach works best today. You prefer an orderly lifestyle, so catch up on basics and chores for your own peace of mind.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) The tempo picks up through the day. Your sensual mood can connect. Enjoy some transient fun, but don't overdo it.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Young family members may be in a foolish mood. Join in the fun and show your social creativity. Entertainment!

Wimbledon semi-finals rained out

WIMBLEDON (AP)—John McEnroe, his left shoulder apparently fine after a slight muscle tear, trailed Stefan Edberg 7-5, 7-6, 2-3 before rain interrupted play in their men's semifinal at Wimbledon Friday.

Officials of the All England Club said they would wait as long as possible to complete the match, but that the second semifinal between Ivan Lendl and Boris Becker would not start after 1730 GMT.

The forecast called for possible showers through the night, with a chance of rain again Saturday.

Thunderstorms Thursday night and steady rain Friday morning failed to delay the start of the match, as centre court remained under cover until the last minute.

Any matches not started or completed Friday would be held over until Saturday, when the women's championship match between Steffi Graf and Martina Navratilova was to be decided, the officials said.

McEnroe's serving shoulder was injured Wednesday night during a doubles match that was suspended by darkness, and he forfeited that match before it resumed Thursday.

The fifth-seeded American underwent treatment Thursday and Friday morning and Wimbledon trainer John Matthews said McEnroe's condition had improved.

If the shoulder did not bother McEnroe, Edberg was able to with a quick and powerful serve-and-volley game.

McEnroe, who had trouble with his first serve but otherwise played well, broke for 3-2 lead in the first set and was serving for 5-3 when Edberg, the defending champion from Sweden, broke back on the third double fault by the American.

Edberg wrapped up the set with an ace and a service winner for a 6-5 lead and broke McEnroe for 7-5, then won his third game in a row for a 1-0 lead in the second set before McEnroe held at love for 1-1.

McEnroe saved break points in the sixth and 12th games of the second set, and Edberg saved one in the seventh game. Edberg finally broke in the tiebreaker for a 2-1 lead on McEnroe's sixth double fault and again for 5-2 on a lob that kissed the baseline, he served out for 7-2.

The third set was on serve. McEnroe just taking the lead at 3-2, when the drizzle started and Edberg told umpire Richard Ings that court was "really slippery." Ings called on referee Alan Mills, who ordered play stopped after 2 hours, 12 minutes.

Evert bows out

Meanwhile on Thursday, after Chris Evert's probable farewell to Wimbledon's ivy-covered walls and six rounds of toil and sweat, the goal was in sight for Navratilova and Graf.

When they meet again on Saturday, it will be the first time since 1921 that the same women have met for the championship three years in a row.

Both had straight-set semifinals victories Thursday. Navratilova 7-6, 6-2 over unseeded Swede Catarina Lindqvist and Graf 6-2, 6-1 over three-time champion Evert in what the American said was "90 per cent" certain to be her last appearance here.

However many dramas are still to unfold, this year's championships will be remembered for the day Evert got trounced on centre court and then waved good-bye, probably for the last time.

"I'd be really shocked if I came back next year," Evert said. "It would take a transplant or something... a couple of different parts."

With the centre court dripping with sentimentality and searing heat, Evert made one final effort to win the grass-court title for a fourth time.

But Graf, upset in the final of the French Open by 17-year-old Arantxa Sanchez after five straight Grand Slam tournament titles, was in no mood for nostalgia. She made her intentions clear from the start as she dropped only one point in the first two games.



McEnroe - kissing his luck good-bye.

Evert, the winningest player in Wimbledon history with 96 singles victories, said that if Thursday's match turned out to be her last here, she was pleased Graf was her opponent.

"She's probably the best player I've ever seen," Evert said. "She's so strong and she's getting stronger all the time."

Evert said she would never forget playing at Wimbledon. "The centre court is the greatest court in the world," Evert said. "I'll always remember it. I'd still like to be a part of it in some way, even as a spectator."

Navratilova had to work hard to overcome Lindqvist, the first unseeded player to reach the women's semifinals in six years and the first Swedish woman ever to get that far.

Evert obliged, in the same way she has thousands of times before. Later, she said time finally had caught up with her.

Uruguay beats Chile waits for Argentina

RIO DE JANEIRO (R)—Holders Uruguay boosted their confidence ahead of a vital clash with Diego Maradona's Argentina when they crushed Chile 3-0 (0-0) in the South American soccer championship Thursday night.

Lazio striker Ruben Sosa set Uruguay on the road to victory by heading home a 44th-minute corner in the group two match in Goiania, repeat of the 1987 Copa America final won by the Uruguayans.

Two more of Uruguay's foreign legion, Antonio Alzamendi of Spain's Logrones and Enzo Francescoli of racing Matra Paris, added goals in the 71st and 66th minutes respectively.

The victory put them top of the group two standings with four points. Ecuador, who earlier drew 0-0 with Bolivia, also have four points but Uruguay have a superior goal difference.

Argentina are a point behind the leaders after a 1-0 win over Chile and a scoreless draw with Ecuador.

Home, home on the range...

MAYERTHORPE, Alberta (AP)—Fred Hay's children climbed into his tall, black cowboy boots with incredible ease.

They're big boots to fill—brimming with experience, integrity, common sense and horse sense.

Fred, as even the three hay kids call their father, spent 22 years on the rodeo circuit in small towns, cities and cow palaces throughout Canada and the United States. But he never came close to the success his two sons and daughter are enjoying in their first year as professionals.

Nevertheless, the seasoned cowboy—a rustic picture in a dog-eared black station wagon with a Canada goose feather—appears satisfied with his lot in life.

"Rodeo was awful good to me," says 47-year-old Fred, who wandered off the farm at the age of 20 to become a cowboy.

"Maybe the money wasn't that great, but you couldn't trade the things you get from rodeo for money. If they (his children) enjoy it as much as I did, then I'm glad they're there."

Fred retired from rodeo five years ago because injuries had taken their toll. He's now a real estate agent, but he still remembers the thrill of the rodeo.

"When you're... on a good horse, it's like dancing. I think that's why a lot of cowboys have trouble quitting, because they feel they might never be able to do that again—feel that good on a horse."

Visitors to the Hays' simple, uncluttered bungalow in the sprawling ranchland near Mayerthorpe, 150 kilometres northwest of Edmonton, are whisked into the living room to admire bronze sculptures "the boys" won at the Calgary stampee and the picture of trick-riding daughter Jennifer standing in the saddle of a galloping steed named Jake.

Straddling a railing is an elaborate ruby-jewelled saddle won by Rod Hay this spring at the prestigious Houston rodeo.

The 20-year-old rookie saddle-bronc rider also picked up \$9,000 in Houston. His father never won more than a few hundred dollars in one crack.

Nearby is another saddle belonging to Denny Hay, 21, for the 1988 Alberta novice championship in the same event.

All told this summer, 16-year-old Jennifer should earn about \$10,000 hanging sideways from her thoroughbred mix Palomino Cisco and vaulting across him at high speeds in the biggest show of all, the Calgary stampee.

Fred is not certain his children's financial successes are good for them so early in their career. His wife Sharon, 41, begs to differ.

She remembers struggling to pay the bills as Fred moseyed from one rodeo to the next, hoping for the big pay day that never came.

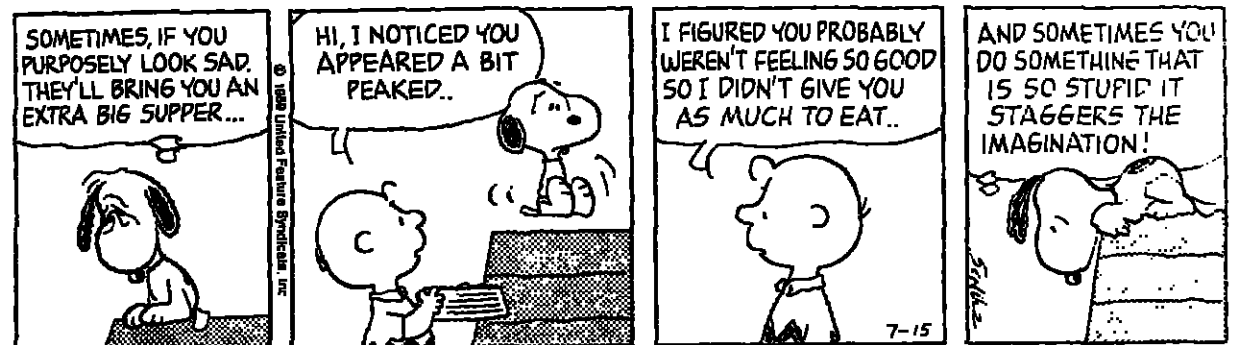
"It's not much fun being a rodeo wife," she said. "I was only 19 when we got married and I just didn't know it would be so rough. I didn't know he'd be away all the time and I'd be alone."

Sharon still complains good-naturedly about not having enough money to replace their stove, a wedding gift 22 years ago, or to travel more to watch her kids compete.

Fred says she wouldn't be happy rich.

"I think she'd make a pretty bored yuppie if it came right down to it," he says. "I don't like being broke, but it didn't bother me enough to want to do something I didn't want to do."

Peanuts



B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



Andy Capp



Sri Lanka dismisses India's 'security' claim

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa has rejected Delhi's contention that Indian troops have a mandate to ensure security on the island's northeast.

The responsibility of providing safety and security for its citizens within Sri Lanka is solely the responsibility of the government of Sri Lanka," President Ranasinghe Premadasa said in the latest letter sent to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Correspondence between the two leaders during the past five weeks over Premadasa's request for the withdrawal of Indian troops was presented in parliament Friday by the Prime Minister Dingiri Banda Wijetunga.

Premadasa has said that any interpretation of an Indo-Sri Lanka agreement of 1987 which sought to give Indian troops a mandatory role on the island, except at the request of the Colombo government, would be "a serious interference in the internal affairs of a friendly sovereign country and a gross violation ... of international law."

Premadasa in his letter sent Tuesday was replying to a message from Gandhi who had said that the troops had a mandate in terms of the agreement: to ensure the safety and security of all communities in the Tamil-dominated northeast.

Gandhi has said the troops can be withdrawn under a mutually agreed schedule when Tamil security is assured and semi-autonomous powers given to the northeast as promised.

The troops, at present estimated at 45,000, were sent to Sri Lanka under an agreement signed by former President Junius Jayewardene and Gandhi in a bid to resolve a rebellion by the Tamil minority community.

Sri Lanka has said the troops must withdraw by the end of July.

"The only condition that should be satisfied for the withdrawal of the Indian armed forces is a decision by the president of Sri Lanka that they should be withdrawn," Premadasa said.

"The request made by me to withdraw the Indian armed forces has satisfied this condition."



Ranasinghe Premadasa

His remarks came in response to Gandhi's offer earlier this week to discuss setting a timetable for the pullout.

The New Delhi government said a hasty withdrawal could lead to greater ethnic violence on the troubled country.

to protest India's stand, Sri Lanka did not attend a meeting of foreign ministers of the seven-nation South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation scheduled in Islamabad, Pakistan, last month. The meeting was cancelled.

Besides Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and the Maldives are members of the group.

Sri Lanka also has said it will not host the group's summit meeting in November if Indian troops do not leave the island by then.

Premadasa's request for an Indian troop withdrawal followed negotiations between his government and the rebels in May, the first direct contact between the two sides since the Tamil rebellion began in 1983.



A PEOPLE'S Liberation Army soldier stops a cyclist in Peking's Tiananmen Square to check his identity card as the army intensified the search for student-leaders wanted by the government after the number one wanted person, Wang Dan, was thought to be in the city.

COLUMN

65th 'miracle' cure at Lourdes

LOURDES, France (R) — A Sicilian woman whose malignant tumour vanished after she visited Lourdes is the 65th person to be officially cured by the French town's miraculous powers, the Roman Catholic Church said.

Delizia Crocifissi spent a week in Lourdes in 1976 when she was 12. She returned a year later and doctors said the tumour on her knee had disappeared, saving her leg from amputation. The southwestern town of Lourdes has been a place of pilgrimage for Catholics since a peasant girl said she saw visions of the Virgin Mary there in 1858. In the past 100 years doctors have recognised 2,500 out of 12,000 cures as medically inexplicable, while the Catholic Church has accepted only 65 cases as official miracles.

Tanzania haunted by ghost workers

DAR ES SAALAAM (R) — Tanzania's government says it is haunted by more than 20,000 "ghost" workers — civil servants who don't exist except on the payroll. A number of non-ghostly workers were suspected of drawing more than one salary.

Minister of State Fatma said Ali told parliament. Tanzania has 302,632 civil servants.

'Iron curtain' for sale

VIENNA (AP) — An Australian firm has announced plans to sell bits of the former barbed wire barrier between Hungary and Austria as souvenirs of the "iron curtain." With improving ties to the West, Hungary's leadership decided last February to tear down the barrier separating the country from the West for more than 30 years. The fence and electronic alarm system were completed in 1972. The trend connection signed an agreement in Vienna last week with the Hungarian partner Mert, said Norbert Brust, chairman of the Austrian firm. It was not clear whether the Hungarian government has approved of the deal. Brust said the plan calls for 20-centimetre pieces of barbed wire to be shaped into rose designs as "a symbol of peace and freedom" and sold for about 500 shillings (\$38).

Cuban generals sentenced to death

HAVANA (R) — A Cuban military court sentenced revolutionary hero General Arnaldo Ochoa and three others to death Friday for involvement in drug trafficking.

After deliberating for two days, the tribunal of three-star generals also sentenced 10 other defendants, all army and state security officers, to long prison terms, the state news agency AIN reported.

The prosecutor in Cuba's biggest scandal since the 1959 revolution had requested death sentences for seven of the defendants, saying that the accused had "challenged the credibility of (Cuban leader) Fidel Castro."

Ochoa, a hero of the Cuban revolution and former head of Cuban military forces in Angola and Ethiopia, was a highly-decorated general.

Castro has consistently denied charges by Washington of Cuban links to drugs traffickers.

The 14 defendants were cashiered from their respective services following their arrest last month. All pleaded guilty at the four-day trial.

The head of Cuba's counter-intelligence department testified that by secretly allowing drug runners into Cuba, the defendants had violated national security.

Those sentenced to face the firing squad were Gen. Ochoa, his aide Captain Jorge Martinez, Colonel Antonio de la Guardia and Major Amado Padron, who was under Ochoa's command.

Eduardo Diaz, Antonio Sanchez and Alexis Lago, for whom the prosecution had requested death penalties, were sentenced to 30 years in prison.

De la Guardia's brother Padricio, a general, Rosa, Maria Ahlerno, the only woman defendant, and Miguel Ruiz were sentenced to 25 years in jail. Antonio Rodriguez received a 10-year sentence.

Col. De la Guardia headed a top-secret of Cuban intelligence entrusted with circumventing the U.S. economic embargo against the Caribbean island-state.

In his summary Tuesday night, Prosecutor General Juan Escalona said the defendants had "struck a dagger into the back of the nation."

Their most serious crimes, he said, had been hostile acts against foreign nations, a reference to the U.S.-bound drugs flow.

The scandal, unprecedented in Castro's 30-year rule, has tarnished some of the island's most venerable institutions.

Peking steps up assault on U.S., 'foreign powers'

PEKING (AP) — China intensified its assault on the United States, saying Friday that Washington tramples human rights and accusing foreign powers of providing Chinese student activists with passports to flee the country.

"During the process of quelling the recent counterrevolutionary rebellion, the American government and Congress under the pretext of 'protecting human rights' meddled with China's domestic affairs," said the People's Daily newspaper, the official publication of the Communist Party.

"When the Chinese government on June 4 used firm methods to quell the counterrevolutionary rebellion, the U.S. government became furious and were the first to impose 'sanctions' on China to exert pressure on us," the newspaper said in a commentary.

"But everybody can still remember (U.S. Senator Joe) McCarthy's notorious anti-communist, anti-China legislation," the paper said. "And 100 years after the declaration of the emancipation of America's slaves, the discrimination faced by blacks and people of other colours is still serious."

Washington suspended military sales and high-level governmental exchanges after the Chinese army's bloody suppression of unarmed protesters seeking democratic reforms. Peking has said some 300 people, mostly soldiers, were killed, but Chinese witnesses and Western sources say as many as 3,000 civilians were killed.

Noting U.S. criticism of South Africa and U.S. involvement in Korea, Vietnam and Grenada, the Chinese government newspaper said Washington "has never stopped its interference with other countries' internal affairs."

"This is the reality of the American 'guardians of human rights.'"

In a separate article, called "How America Tramples on Human Rights," the Communist Party paper printed a chronology of civil rights and anti-war protests in the United States, complete with numbers of arrests and deaths of demonstrators.

Italian government crisis worsens

ROME (AP) — Italy entered its eighth week without a government Friday, after Premier-designate Ciriaco de Mita gave up efforts to form Italy's 49th post-war government.

De Mita, a Christian Democrat whose government collapsed in May, told President Francesco Cossiga Thursday that "the political conditions were not present," to form a new coalition.

The former premier apparently was blocked in his efforts by Bettino Craxi, whose Socialists were the second-largest party in the former coalition after the dominant Christian Democrats.

Cossiga's office said in a statement Thursday that the president "intends to press for a solution to the government crisis and solve it as soon as possible."

Cossiga was scheduled to start negotiations with party leaders Saturday, and the state-owned Rai television quoted unidentified sources as saying he would choose another Christian Democrat to try to form a coalition.

If the premier-designate fails, Cossiga could dissolve parliament and call general elections, which are not scheduled until 1992.

But that possibility seemed unlikely. If negotiations drag on, the parties likely will form a "governo balneare" — a bathing government — to be in place while politicians and other Italians enjoy their traditional August beach vacations. After that, the government likely would collapse and new negotiations would begin.

De Mita told reporters Thursday that his attempt to resurrect the five-party coalition had been frustrated by Craxi, a popular former premier.

Craxi refused to join any new coalition headed by De Mita unless the small Liberal and Republican parties, which had been

part of the government, disavowed the Radical Party.

The Liberals, Republicans and Radicals ran on a joint ticket in European Parliament elections last month.

Political observers saw Craxi's move as an effort to oust De Mita and increase his party's growing influence.

"The Socialist strategy is very clear," wrote Eugenio Scalfari, the editor of the Rome daily newspaper La Repubblica, in a front-page article. "They want De Mita to throw in the towel but they don't want to cast any personal veto that the DC (Christian Democrats) couldn't accept."

De Mita's announcement Thursday appeared to mark his departure from the political stage, at least for the near future.

The balding De Mita had been one of the country's most powerful politicians in recent years. He headed the 13-month-old government that collapsed in May, and led the Christian Democrats for seven years.

But his party chose a new leader in February, sharply reducing his power and setting the stage for the government collapse. It finally occurred when Craxi declared he had lost confidence in the premier's leadership.

The Communists, Italy's second-largest party, have been excluded from government for four decades. In recent years, the Christian Democrats, Socialists, Liberals and Republicans have governed in coalitions with the small Social Democrat Party.

Cossiga, who is worried by the length of the crisis, will hold a rapid round of consultations with the parties Saturday before naming a new prime minister designate.

DC sources said the most likely candidates were Interior Minister Antonio Gava.

Greeks likely to face fresh general elections in October

ATHENS (Agencies) — Greece's new conservative-communist government is determined to hold elections in early October, the government spokesman said Thursday.

In forging an alliance following inconclusive general elections on June 18, conservative New Democracy leader Constantine Mitsotakis and Harilaos Florakis, leader of the Communist-led Coalition of the Left and Progress, pledged that their government would last three months.

They said that the government would be limited to investigating a series of banking, financial and arms scandals allegedly involving officials of former Premier Andreas Papandreu's Socialist government.

Government spokesman Athanasios Kanellopoulos said that the two parties had agreed to "terminate as soon as possible the procedure" for a clean up of the scandals, and that they had agreed not to extend the government's mandate.

Meanwhile, the government Thursday appointed veteran centrist politician George Milonas to the post of culture minister. The other outstanding post in the 24-member cabinet went to leftist trade unionist Theodoris Papanastasiou who was appointed labour minister.

Kanellopoulos said also that "there will be no change in the electoral system."

A new simple proportional electoral system used in the latest general elections resulted in no party gaining a parliamentary majority.

Mitsotakis expressed dissatisfaction over the system, saying that it robbed his party of a clear victory.

With 44.25 per cent of the vote New Democracy won 145 seats in the unicameral 300-member parliament. In 1985 Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasek) had won 161 seats with 45.82 per cent of the vote under a reinforced proportional electoral system. In the last elections Pasok took 125 seats with 39.15 per cent of the vote.

The simple proportional system, however, had been a long-standing demand of the Communists, who won 28 seats in the latest elections with 13.12 per cent of the vote. In 1985 the left-wing parties comprising the coalition gained only 13 seats with 11.73 per cent of the vote.

A former Greek minister accused of involvement in a financial scandal said Thursday that he was only following orders from his superiors when he deposited state funds at a private bank.

Former Socialist Public Order Minister George Petros said orders "came from higher places" to deposit state funds at the Bank of Crete which is at the centre of the \$200 million embezzlement scandal. Interest payments on the state accounts were allegedly pocketed.

Petros is the first former Socialist minister to break ranks and speak out since the new coalition government came to power, vowing to lift immunity for former ministers and prosecute those accused of wrongdoing.

Petros said through his lawyer Alexandros Katsandonis that the state deposits at the Bank of Crete were part of a government plan.

Fourteen Socialist-appointed state company heads have been charged in the Bank of Crete affair.

"All the alleged crimes took place but he is innocent," the lawyer told reporters.

"Petros has evidence the accusations against him are a plot by the Socialist leadership to conceal their role," Katsandonis said.

A special report to parliament listed evidence gathered during months of investigations into the activities of former Socialist Justice Minister Agamemnon Koutsouras and Petros.

Petros made his remarks as new conservative prime minister Tzannis Tzannetakis vowed to parliament to carry out a fast and full investigation into the scandal.

Opening a three-day debate before a confidence vote on the coalition, he said: "The desire of the people for a complete cleansing allows this government to address everyone regardless of political belief."

Record price for 'unknown' clock

LONDON (AP) — A 300-year-old clock which strikes high and low notes when sounding the hours made a record clock auction price of £880,000 pounds (\$1,408 million), auctioneers Christie's said. The hitherto unknown clock was made about 1680 by Thomas Tompion, England's finest clock maker, who is buried in Westminster Abbey. It was sent for sale by an anonymous Canadian collector and bought by Asprey's, an expensive gift shop in London's New Bond Street.

The previous record was £842,000 pounds (the \$1.1 million) in 1984 for an ornate German ivory clock of the mid-17th century from Augsburg. "This is the most significant tompon discovery in the past half-century. When the owner wrote to me last year and said he was sending it to us for sale I thought from his description I was going to see a fake," said Richard Garnier, Christie's expert. He said the 1.8-metre tall long case clock was unique "because Tompion put into it everything he could think of. It has an oil lamp illuminating a rotating disc to show the hours at night, it runs for a month and it has a very economical striking mechanism." The strike is aligned to the hours on the dial in Roman numerals: a low note for the figure 1, a high note for V and two high notes for X. "When it's 4 O'clock, which is IV, it goes bong-bong, at 6 O'clock, VI, bong-bong and at 12 O'clock, XII, bong-bong-bong-bong," Garnier said.

Iran-contra figure gets probation

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A public-relations executive and one-time campaign worker for former President Ronald Reagan was sentenced Thursday to two years' probation for his role in the Iran-contra scandal.

Richard Miller, 36, who pleaded guilty in 1987 to participating in a tax-fraud conspiracy to arm the Nicaraguan contra rebels, also was ordered by a judge to perform 120 hours of community service.

The sentence for the former State Department consultant was handed down the day after the key figure in the scandal, former White House aide Oliver North, was spared having to go to prison for his conviction on three criminal charges.

North received a three-year suspended sentence, two years' probation and a \$150,000 fine and was told to perform 1,200 hours

of community service in an anti-drug programme.

Miller, who was hired as a State Department consultant to drum up public support for the Reagan administration's Central American policies, admitted he conspired with North to raise funds to help arm the contras in 1985-86, when Congress had banned U.S. military assistance.

Miller worked in Reagan's 1980 presidential campaign.

President Bush is facing renewed pressure to pardon North.

Fifty-eight members of the house of representatives composed a letter to Bush urging a pardon for North, arguing "it's time to put an end to the political persecution of an honourable man who has served his country with distinction."

Congressman Robert Dornan, a Republican who led the effort, still plans to forward the letter to Bush even though it was written before the sentencing and anticipated that North would draw a prison term, spokesman Paul Morrell said Thursday.

Sen. Orrin Hatch said he believed Bush should pardon North because the fine was too high and the loss of the former marine's pension was too stiff a penalty.

The navy announced that as a result of the sentencing it was suspending North's \$23,000-a-year pension earned in 20 years of service. But it recommended the pension be restored by Comptroller General Charles Bowsher, who has the final say.

North said after the sentencing Wednesday he planned to press an appeal of his conviction and looked forward to carrying out Gessell's order that he devote time to helping area youths avoid drugs.

"I welcome the chance to work

for these folks and anybody in the fight against drugs," North said.

U.S. President George Bush said Thursday he was pleased North was not sentenced to a prison term on his conviction in the affair.

"I'm happy he's not going to jail," Bush told reporters at the White House. Bush said he would not comment further because the North case was still under appeal.

Documents released in North's trial suggest Bush may have been the middleman for a so-called "quid pro quo" plan in 1985 in which the United States would provide aid to Honduras in exchange for Honduran support for the Nicaraguan rebels.

This was at a time when U.S. aid to the contras was banned. Bush has repeatedly denied playing any such middleman role while he was vice president to President Ronald Reagan.

made him a celebrity. Gone too were the crowds of admirers who pressured their congressmen to give the gallant hero a break.

The man who once inspired a small industry of Ollie buttons, Ollie T-shirts, Ollie bumper stickers and the like wore dark suits to court and chatted amiably with his attorneys, his bodyguard and his wife Betsy.

The only courtroom vestige of his "olliemania" fame was occasional applause in the spectators' queue outside court.

For seven of the eight weeks of testimony, North listened to a parade of witnesses who gave differing versions of his activities. Some of the key prosecution witnesses were the most fervent in their praise of him as a dedicated patriot.

Contra leader Adolfo Calero said the rebels saw North as a saviour.

Fawn Hall, North's glamorous White House secretary, wept on the stand and praised her old boss even as she detailed a "shredding party" that destroyed classified National Security Council documents that might have helped investigators.

There were detractors, too. A White House petty cash clerk testified that North became red-faced and furious when there was a delay in getting an advance for taxi fares or money for petrol. And a former NSC colleague likened him to Pinocchio and said he took everything North said with "four grains of salt."



Oliver North

Many faces of North shown at Iran-contra trial

By Deborah Zabarenko Reuter

WASHINGTON — To some, Oliver North was a hero. To others, he was a slick operator who used his White House position to try to dupe Iran and funnel profits to the Nicaraguan contras.

At his sentencing Wednesday he showed yet another face. "I grieve every day," he said, his voice cracking after insisting he felt remorse for his actions.

The look was in stark contrast to his conviction in May. "As a marine I was taught to fight and fight hard for as long as it takes to prevail," he said then. "We will continue this battle and with the support and prayers of the American people, I will be fully vindicated."

North's many faces gave the jury various portraits of the fired White House aide to consider.

Ronald Reagan and George Bush saw North as a gun-guy marine officer and called him a hero. Top government officials knew him as Ollie, but he was "steelhammer" and "blood and guts" in classified memos written by an adoring aide.

On a fake passport issued to assist some covert mission he was "William B. Goode." Boyhood friends knew him as Larry.

In federal court he was known legally as the defendant. On May 4 the jury moved him past that status as well with findings of guilt on three of the

12 charges stemming from the secret sales of arms to Iran and the diversion of profits to Nicaragua's contra rebels.

The 45-year-old retired lieutenant colonel was fined \$150,000 Wednesday but received no jail term for one count of obstructing congress by helping to create a false chronology of Iran-contra events, one of shredding official documents and one of accepting an illegal gratuity.

He was given a three-year suspended sentence and two years' probation and was ordered to perform 1,200 hours of community service with poor youth. He was also barred from holding public office in the United States.

During the trial, North maintained his innocence, sitting ramrod straight at the defence table or testifying in a pained tenor voice.

His innocent pleas were based partly on the argument — clearly accepted by the jury for the most part — that whatever he did was done in following orders from higher-ups, whom he had presumed to include then-President Reagan.

The man on trial seemed a far cry from the cocky, dashing fellow who starred at televised congressional hearings in 1987 and testified almost gleefully then to his key role in both the Iran-contra missions and their concealment from Congress.

Gone now was the smart marine lieutenant colonel's uniform with the rows of ribbons he wore at those hearings that

made him a celebrity. Gone too were the crowds of admirers who pressured their congressmen to give the gallant hero a break.

The man who once inspired a small industry of Ollie buttons, Ollie T-shirts, Ollie bumper stickers and the like wore dark suits to court and chatted amiably with his attorneys, his bodyguard and his wife Betsy.

The only courtroom vestige of his "olliemania" fame was occasional applause in the spectators' queue outside court.

For seven of the eight weeks of testimony, North listened to a parade of witnesses who gave differing versions of his activities. Some of the key prosecution witnesses were the most fervent in their praise of him as a dedicated patriot.

Contra leader Adolfo Calero said the rebels saw North as a saviour.

Fawn Hall, North's glamorous White House secretary, wept on the stand and praised her old boss even as she detailed a "shredding party" that destroyed classified National Security Council documents that might have helped investigators.

There were detractors, too. A White House petty cash clerk testified that North became red-faced and furious when there was a delay in getting an advance for taxi fares or money for petrol. And a former NSC colleague likened him to Pinocchio and said he took everything North said with "four grains of salt."

Global weather

(major world cities)		MIN.		MAX.		Weather
		°C	°F	°C	°F	
AMSTERDAM	21	70	27	81	Clear	
ATHENS	25	72	33	91	Cloudy	
BANGKOK	29	84	35	100	Clear	
BANGKOK	25	77	33	91	Clear	
Buenos Aires	20	68	30	86	Clear	
CAIRO	25	72	34	93	Clear	
CHICAGO	17	63	26	79	Cloudy	
COPENHAGEN	15	59	20	68	Clear	
FRANKFURT	18	64	28	82	Cloudy	
GENEVA	17	63	29	84	Cloudy	
HONG KONG	26	79	33	91	Clear	
ISTANBUL	20	68	28	82	Clear	
LONDON	19	66	28	79	Rain	
LOS ANGELES	18	64	32	86	Clear	
MADRID	18	64	32	86	Clear	
MECCA	27	81	44	112	Clear	
MONTREAL	18	64	30	86	Cloudy	
MOSCOW	12	54	24	75	Cloudy	
NEW DELHI	24	75	34	93	Clear	
NEW YORK	20	68	32	90	Clear	
PARIS	19	66	31	88	Clear	
ROME	19	66	28	82	Clear	
SIDNEY	18	64	27	81	Clear	
TOKYO	20	68	31	88	Cloudy	
VIENNA	20	68	31	88	Clear	

